LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
YJ
ヤングジャンプ
YJC
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
II
甲斐谷忍
集英社
GAME II
shinobu kaitani
presents
甲斐谷忍
II

BOOK DESIGN☆TSUKANO HIROTAKA

ライアーゲーム

II

LIAR-GAME

shinobu kaitani presents

YJ ヤングジャン YJC
LIAR-GAME ライアーゲーム
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甲斐谷忍

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甲斐谷忍
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LIAR-GAME

shinsha presents

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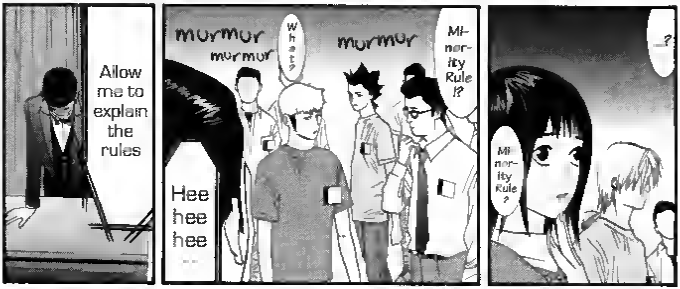
contents

This is a work of fiction. It has no connection with actual people, organizations, or events.

Chapter 8

Commence Battle

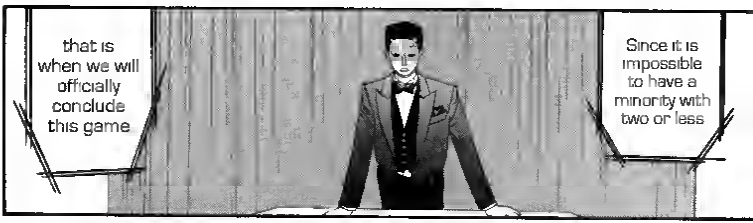
"Minority Rule"!
The game that you are about to play is...


Allow me to explain the rules
murmur
murmur
murmur
What's
Hee hee hee
Minority Rule!?
Minority Rule?
?

each player will cast a ballot with their answer
And in response
You will be presented with a yes or no question

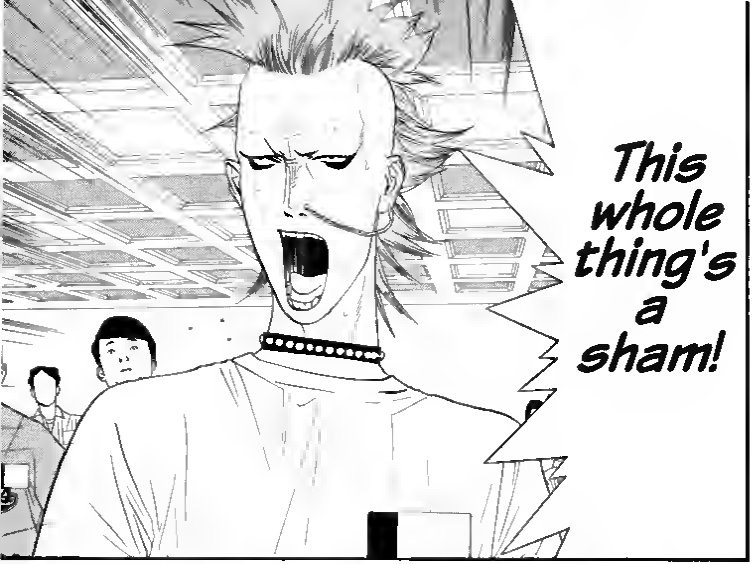
those who voted along with the minority will be declared the winners.
At the end
After all ballots are cast, the votes will be tallied
However, it will be game over for the losers
The winners will proceed to the next round of voting
Each will be asked to return his or her nameplate – in other words, their 100 million yen – and leave the premises.
And so, rounds of voting will continue
and ask everyone to vote again.
In such a case we will dismiss the round
such as 11 to 11
Of course, it is possible that there will be a tie.

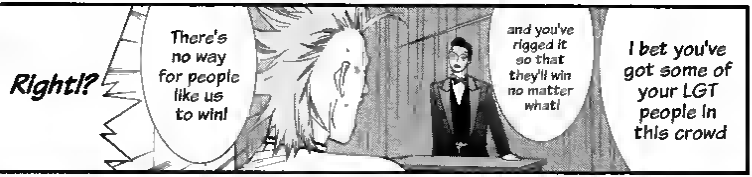
until there are only one or two players left.


that is when we will officially conclude this game
Since it is impossible to have a minority with two or less

has a general feel for the rules correct?
At this point, every-one
And if there are two the reward will be 1 billion each
the reward will be 2 1 billion if there is one winner
Having taken the money awarded at the start of the game

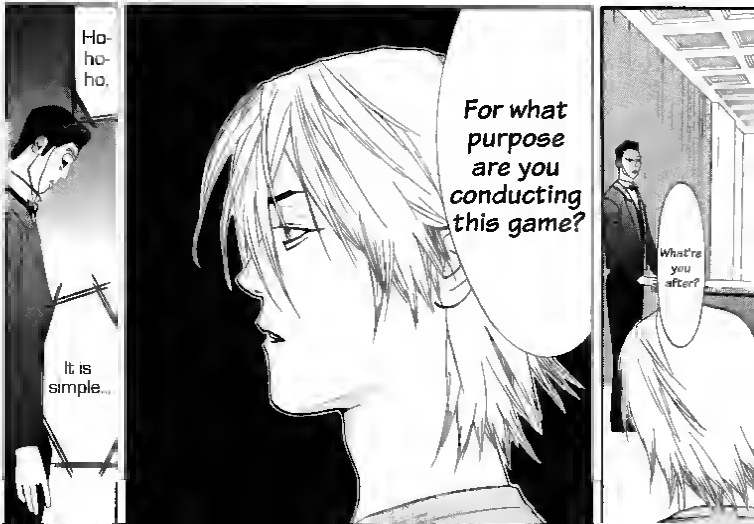
pay us that full reward?
W-Will you really...


This whole thing's a sham!

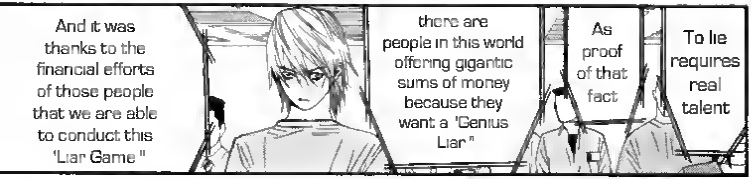

Right!?
There's no way for people like us to win!
and you've rigged it so that they'll win no matter what!
I bet you've got some of your LGT people in this crowd

If this was a "majority rule" game, then such a plan might work.
Indeed, we could plant a large enough number to be the majority.
How so?
Sham, you say?
ho ho ho

However, this is a MINORITY game.
Thus, there is no possible way for us to control it.

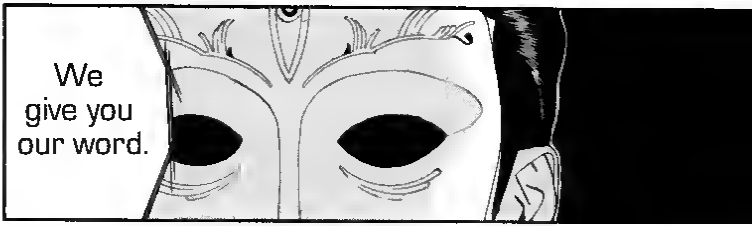

Ho-ho-ho,
It is simple...
For what purpose are you conducting this game?
What're you after?

We wish to crown the true "Liar King."
No more, no less.


And it was thanks to the financial efforts of those people that we are able to conduct this 'Liar Game."
there are people in this world offering gigantic sums of money because they want a 'Genius Liar."
As proof of that fact
To lie requires real talent

If in the course of the game the LGT is guilty of dishonesty
If you still doubt us, then how about this?
simply because we have nothing to gain from it
we, the LGT would never do anything dishonest
I regret to inform you that we are unable to disclose their identities.
But in any case

the player who uncovers it will be awarded 10 billion yen!


We give you our word.

Please, help yourself to a meal.
But first I am sure everyone here must be famished.
I will gladly take your questions after we have finished
since the actual game will commence tomorrow, we would like to conduct a rehearsal this evening
At this point, I am sure there are still questions that you would like to ask. However,

!!
ガラガラガラ

A few moments later, we found many extravagant dishes lined up before us.

Just by looking, you could tell that they were made from only the most expensive ingredients.

And yet,

almost no one made an effort to partake of it.

It went without saying:

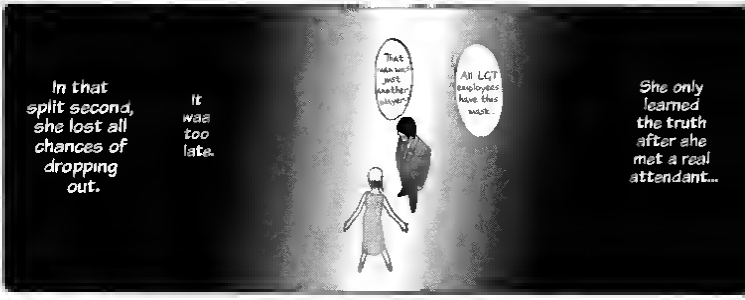
How could you have an appetite after hearing that?
The majority of the people in this room would lose 100 million.
Mr. Akiyama and
The only ones who actually dared to stuff their faces were
Huh? Aren't you going to eat?
You have quite an appetite, given the situation.
The man in the sunglasses...
the person in the corner of the room, with name-plate #15

Better eat well while you can.
It's going to be a fierce battle.
!!
Sigh...
A fierce battle...?
Why are YOU here?
On the contrary, I should be asking you!
You weren't qualified to enter this round!!
Mr. Akiyama! Why are you even here!?
Oh, that's right !!
I thought we agreed for you to just ignore the LGT...
W-Well I..
Shh!!

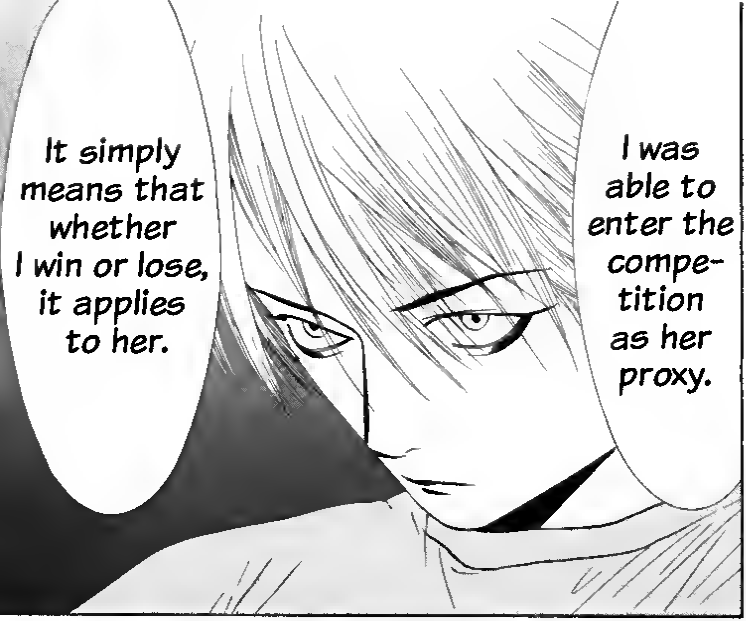
I came out of my way to stop you...
To keep you from getting yourself any deeper into this game.
But I was too late.
When I arrived, you had already set foot inside this mansion.
Like you said, I did not have permission to come inside.
So while I was wandering around the mansion looking for a way in,
I happened to come across a woman who was crying.
What's wrong?
What – am I going to do...?

Might you be, perhaps
a participant in the Liar Game?
.....
...Yes.
Apparently she had managed to get the whole 100 million in the first round.
I didn't catch all the details about how... but, anyway,
she was suffering terrible pangs of conscience from what she had done.
So she came here planning to return all of the money so she could drop out.
With that goal in mind, she talked to the first attendant she came across.
and gave him the check for the 100 million so she could be free.
Or so she thought.
?
Thought?
She wasn't able to drop out
...because...

The person she gave the check to was an impostor.
He was actually another participant in this game!
!!


She only learned the truth after she met a real attendant...
That was not just another player.
All LGT employees have this mark.
It was too late.
In that split second, she lost all chances of dropping out.

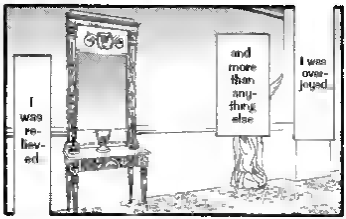
So basically,
Yup.
So she had no choice but to continue playing?

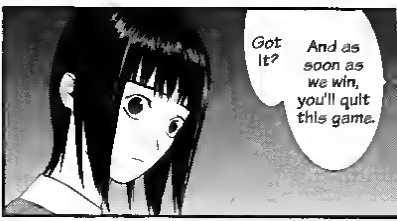

I was able to enter the competition as her proxy.
It simply means that whether I win or lose, it applies to her.

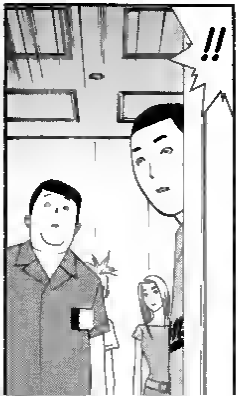
Luckily, the LGT attendants accept substitutions
as long as you show the invitation postcard.

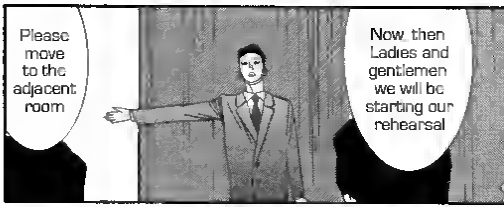
So, see here.
My name-plate.
...Ah
It says Takada Michiko!
22
Takada Michiko
Since it's come to this...
.. So in my effort to stop you, I got stuck in this game as well.
I'm so sorry.

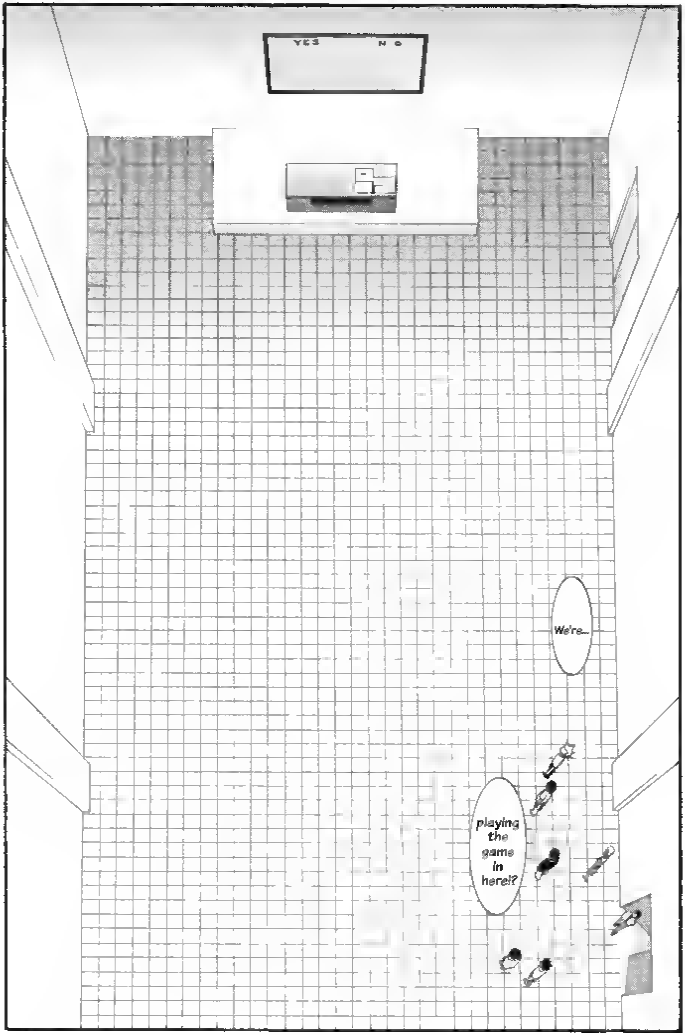
we'll win.

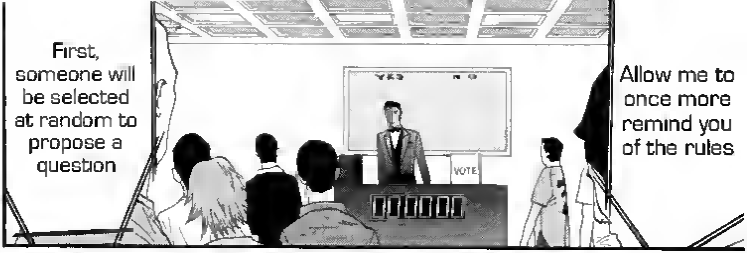

I was relieved
and more than anything else
I was overjoyed

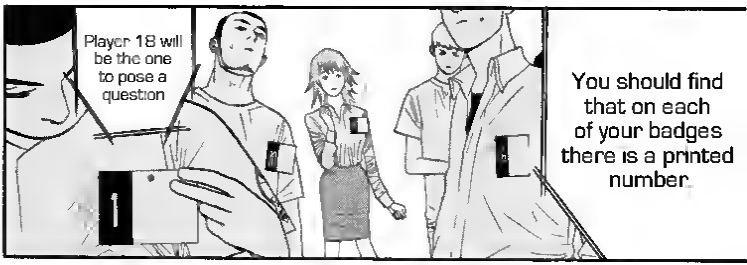

Got it?
And as soon as we win, you'll quit this game.


!!


Please move to the adjacent room
Now, then Ladies and gentlemen we will be starting our rehearsal

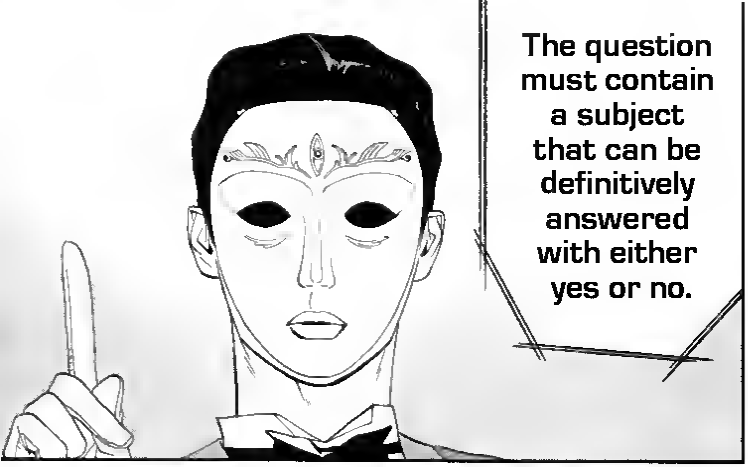

YES
NO
We're...
playing the game in here!?

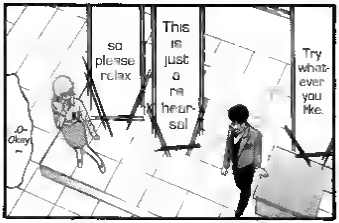


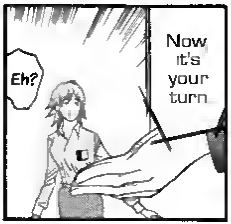


(*T/N - SDF = Self-Defense Forces. See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Japan_Self-Defense_Forces#Article_9)

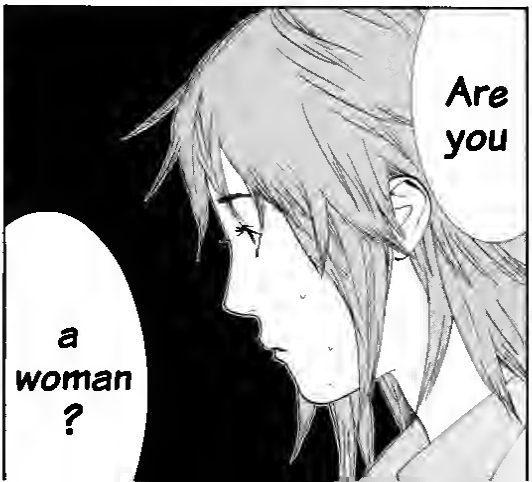
However there is one restriction
Whatever you like For instance
Like what...?
"Is the SDF* constitutional or unconstitutional?"
Please offer us a question while standing here on stage
Right this way

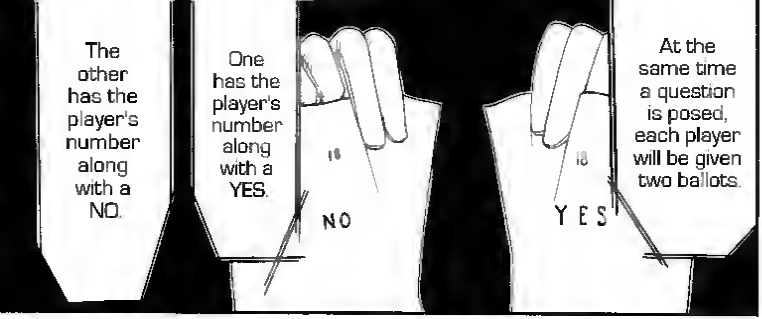

The question must contain a subject that can be definitively answered with either yes or no.


O-Okay~
so please relax
This is just a re-hearsal
Try whatever you like.


Eh?
Now it's your turn

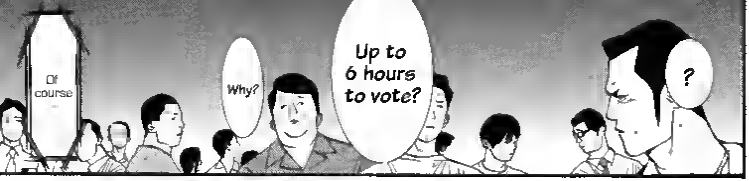
Your fellow player has just posed the question
"Are you a woman ?"


Are you
a woman ?


The other has the player's number along with a NO.
One has the player's number along with a YES.
NO
YES
At the same time a question is posed, each player will be given two ballots.

A player could decide to write an answer besides YES or NO
or even write a different person's name on the ballot.
Why can't we write our ballots by hand?
To prevent invalid votes
Please be warned that if both ballots are entered you will be disqualified
Those who wish to vote YES shall place the appropriate ballot into this box labeled VOTE
VOTE

you have 6 hours to place your vote.
In other words
From this point forth, you will have 6 hours to make a decision.


Of course
Why?
Up to 6 hours to vote?
?

Please be warned
If a player does not place their vote within the time limit, they will unconditionally lose

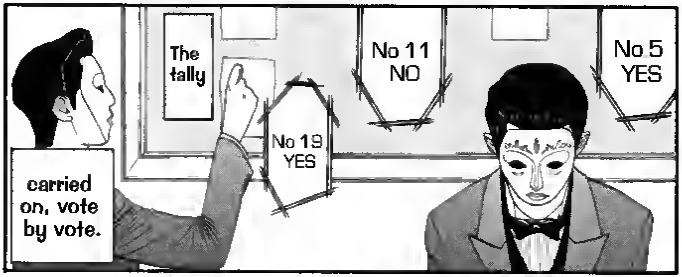
If there are those who wish to use all 6 hours and vote right before the time limit, that is acceptable as well
However
If there are those who wish to place their votes immediately that is fine

00959
Ummm
U-Umm

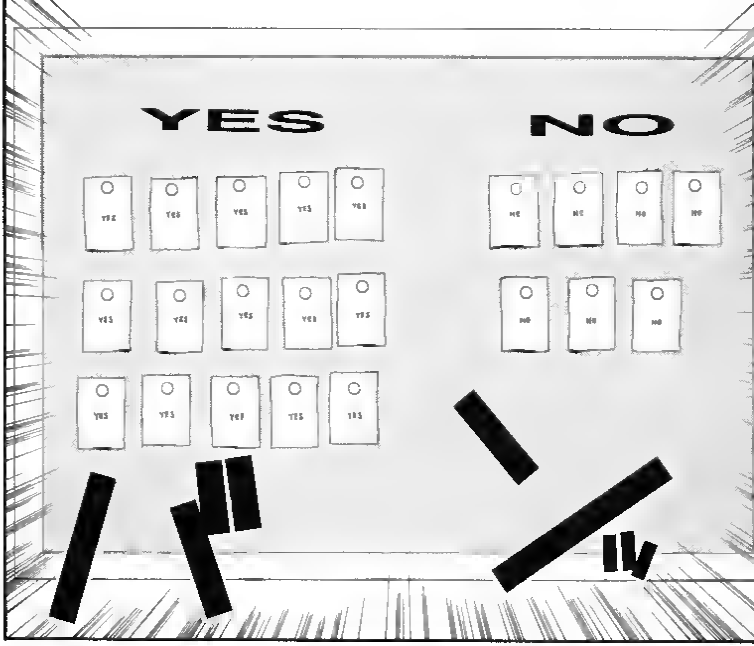
And start
Since this is only a rehearsal, we will set the time limit to 10 minutes just this once.

Including me, there are six women.
All right! We're the minority!
But
why would we need 6 hours to decide something so simple?
Time is up!

We will now tally the votes.
VOTE
26


The tally
carried on, vote by vote.
No 19 YES
No 11 NO
No 5 YES

the results were shocking.
And

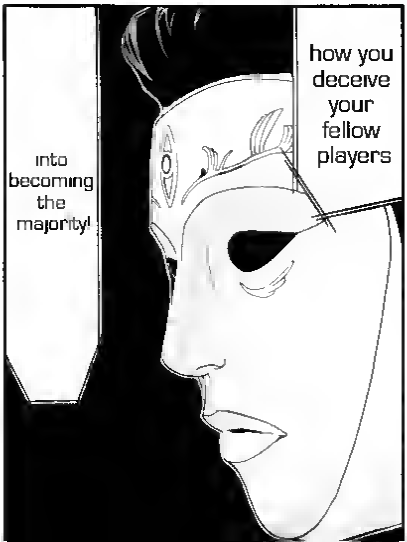

YES
NO

those who voted "I am a man" have become the minority.
The result: 15 to 7, NO.. In other words,

I mean, there are in total only six women!
Why are the men the minority?!
Why?

I...
answered as a woman.
Hey, surely you answered that you were a man, right?
.....
Because there are clearly more men here, I thought I could win if I lied.
Whether it answers the question correctly or not is irrelevant
The real issue is voting for the side that seems more likely to become the minority
That's the true nature of this game.
Ho ho ho.

This is the Liar Game!
In simple terms, the question is mere show.


how you deceive your fellow players
into becoming the majority!

What is important in this game
is how you get yourself into the minority – or, looking at it another way

and probing each other's mind.
Joining the minority is all about strategy
For that purpose,
you are given 6 hours after each question to place your votes.

and if your strategy is perfect enough
If you can completely read your opponents.
The Minority Game is a deep one.

It is possible to become the victor in just a single round.
21 to 1.

one last piece of advice.
Allow me to offer you

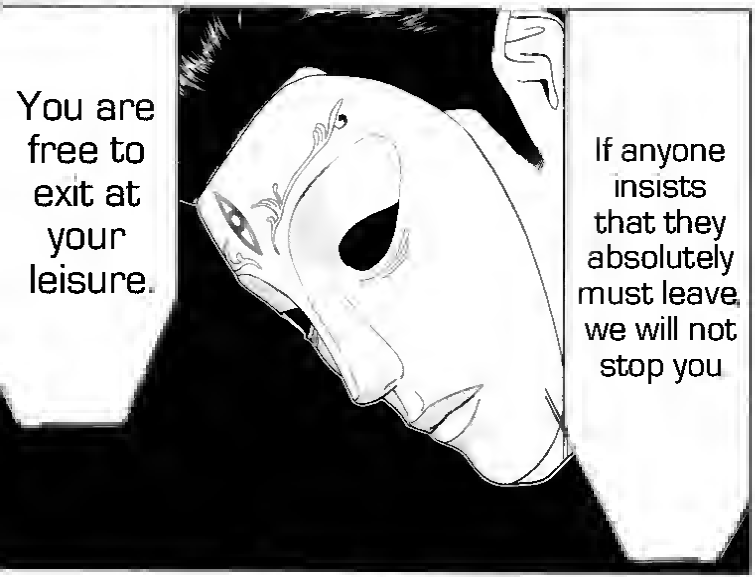
The key to controlling this game is not luck.
It is TIME.
This seemingly pointless, ample amount of time you are allotted–
how you use it
is everything in this game.
I assure you

I assure you:
The player who makes the best use of their time

will win this game!

YES NO
It's not about who has the most luck.
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
Chapter 9
Impatience
will likewise command this game.
Rather, the one who controls time

YES
NO
Um
So, we will end our rehearsal here.
We currently plan on conducting the first round at 8:00 AM and the second at 3:00 PM
As this young lady just mentioned, the real game begins tomorrow
Ahem
Does that mean we're stuck here for the rest of the day?
That being the case, we ask that everyone stay here until then.
This mansion has been operating as a hotel.
That is why we decided it would be the most comfortable place to host our event.
Of course the cost of food and lodging has been completely taken care of.
so rest assured



If anyone had the guts to walk away...

In other words, the game had *already* begun.

Because the game was tomorrow, we had already been given 100 million yen each.

they would automatically be disqualified
and be forced to bear an astronomical debt!

Here is your room, Ms. Kanzaki.

We were guided off to our rooms one by one.

In the end ...
no one left.

...Unbelievable!

Have a good night.
I will come to call for you one hour before tomorrow's game.

What should I do?
So tomorrow's the real thing..

I have to come up with a plan...
I can't lose!

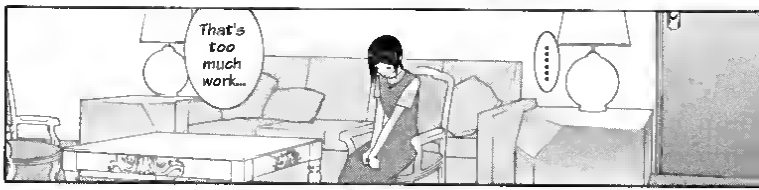
But... how should I use my free time?
Time...?

!!

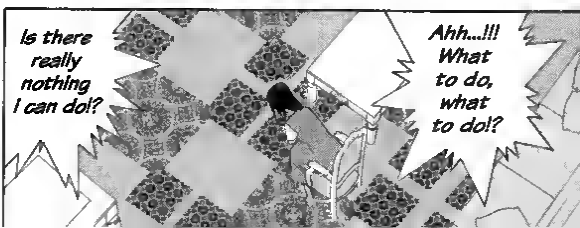
It's about who controls time.
It's not about who has the most luck.

Still, is there really any way to win in a minority vote?

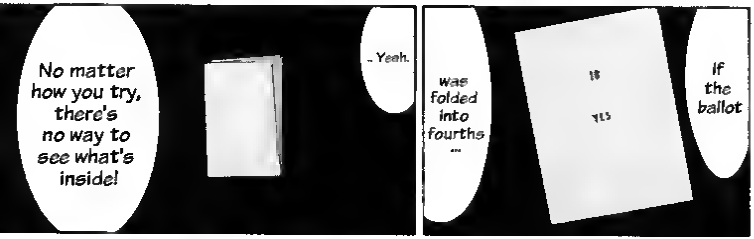
I'll have 6 hours to place my vote.
Maybe I can poke around and
find out what others will answer?

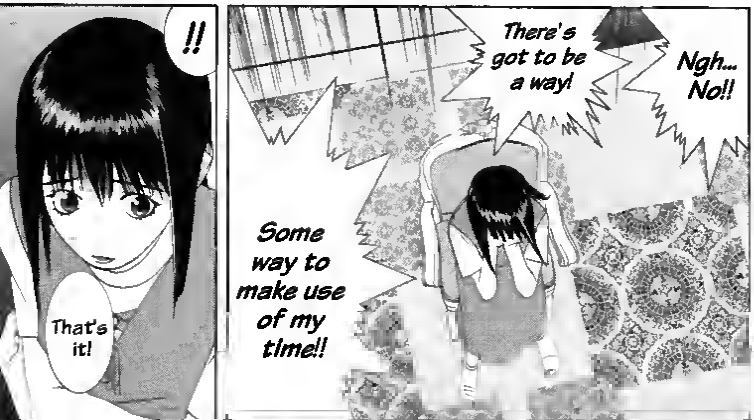


I mean, everyone here won the first round of the Liar Game!
And besides, how can you really find out what people will vote anyway?



Or maybe I can peek at the votes by standing near the ballot box?





Make a majority!

Just like in politics, get people together and form a majority!

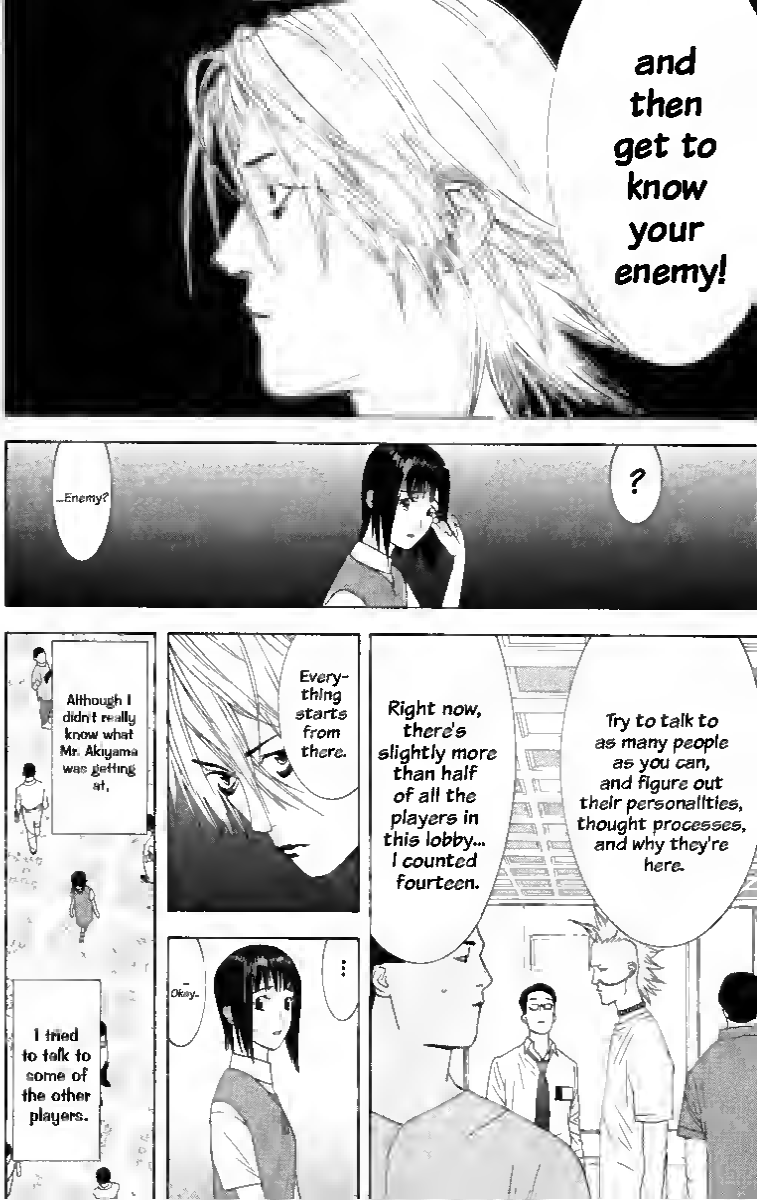
Mr. Aki-ya-ma !!!
SAVE ME!!
No, no, no !!!
No!!
Help me! Some-body help me!!!
I had no one else to turn to but him.
I wandered around the hotel searching for him
but I had no idea which room he was in.
I just kept going, door after door...
until I came to the lobby.
!!

In there,
I found a lot of people gathered together.

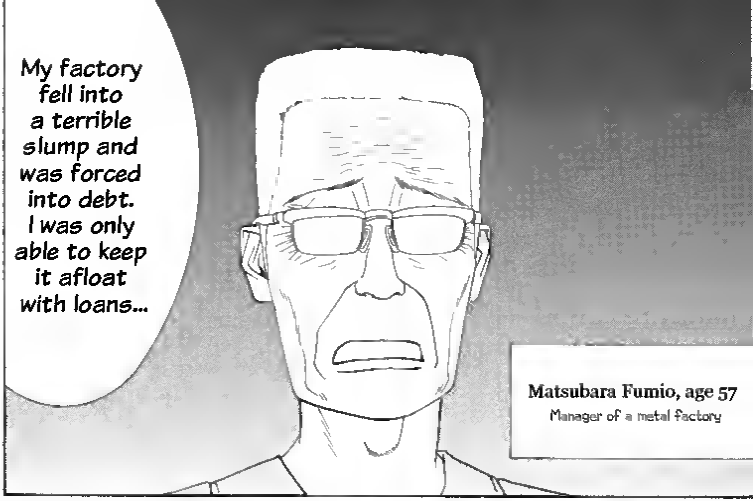
Ah!

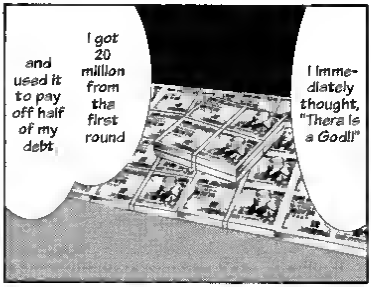
... just like me.
They were likely suffering from anxiety, and probably wandered their way here

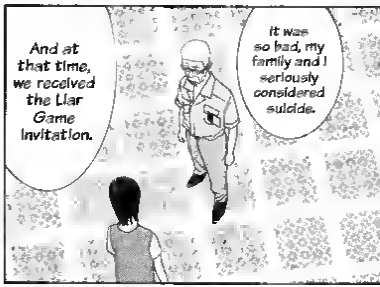
Please help me!
I... I...
Can't sleep?
What?
Mr. Aki-yama !!
But
I... I can't stop thinking about it...
I can't come up with a plan to win!
Stop crying!
If you want to win, then you have to stop crying first!
Regain composure...


and then get to know your enemy!
?
...Enemy?
Although I didn't really know what Mr. Akiyama was getting at,
I tried to talk to some of the other players.
Every-thing starts from there.
...
Okay.
Right now, there's slightly more than half of all the players in this lobby... I counted fourteen.
Try to talk to as many people as you can, and figure out their personalities, thought processes, and why they're here.

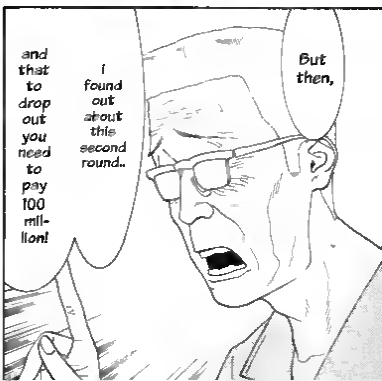
Everyone was doing different things.
A few were having some sort of conversation ...
That person
That's the same person who was eating at lunch!
And there was even a person leaning against the wall observing everyone, sort of like Mr. Akiyama.
But there were also some who wouldn't stop talking.
When I tried to talk to people, some of them gave me a dirty look and turned away.


My factory fell into a terrible slump and was forced into debt. I was only able to keep it afloat with loans...
Matsubara Fumio, age 57
Manager of a metal factory


I got 20 million from the first round
and used it to pay off half of my debt
I immediately thought, "There is a God!!"

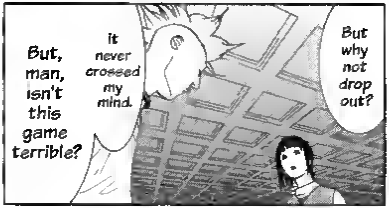

And at that time, we received the Liar Game invitation.
It was so bad, my family and I seriously considered suicide.

I mean, I had just given all the money away to pay for my existing debt...
I was shocked...
There was no way I could come up with that much in a short time...
...I see.

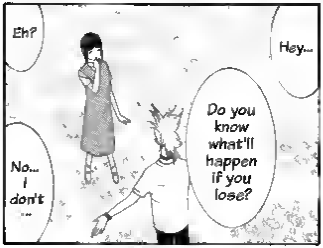

But then,
I found out about this second round..
and that to drop out you need to pay 100 million!

In my case,
I was only able to steal about 2 million yen.
Takayoshi Miura, age 25
Works several part-time jobs

I mean, I had assumed it would be pretty much the same thing as round one.
Damn it. They sure played me big time.
Getting a debt like that if you lose?

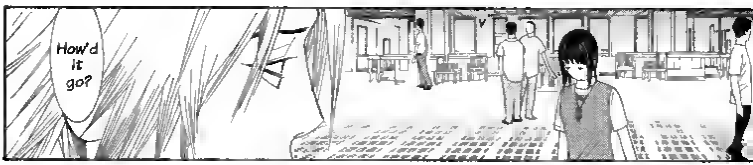

But, man, isn't this game terrible?
It never crossed my mind.
But why not drop out?

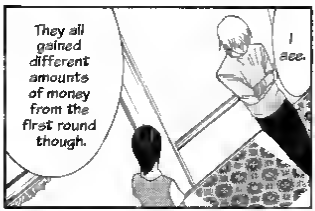
What if they had ties to human trafficking overseas?
No doubt we'd be outta here.
I bet they'd even force you into bankruptcy.
They seem like part of some really dangerous organization


Eh?
Hey...
Do you know what'll happen if you lose?
No... I don't...

Maybe even forced to work as slaves
for the rest of our lives.

I mean, you're young and cute.
If one of their prostitution rings heard about you, I bet they'd use you to fetch a high price.
P--
Prosti-tution !?


How'd it go?


They all gained different amounts of money from the first round though.
I see.

Like, they had personal problems and joined this game hoping to fix things.
The majority of people seem to either already have debts or were forced into this without knowing

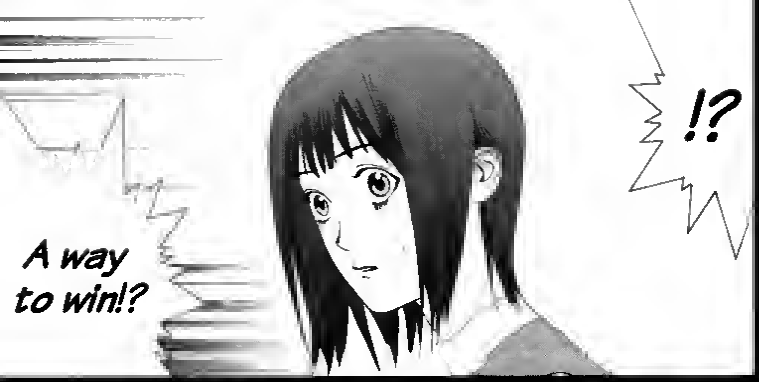
All the others seem to have made just a few million...
He got the most money.
Like that man who worked at a metal factory

Hm...
I guess there are only a few people like us who were able to get all of the opponent's money.
almost everyone said the same thing ...
Oh, and...
There were also a lot who used their reward money to pay off other debts, and so couldn't drop out.
They all said that they would have dropped out had they known sooner.
They thought that since the first round was so easy, the second round would be easy too. They all ended up underestimating it.
It was a complete surprise, basically.
No one expected this next game to involve a 100 million yen debt.
... Okay
Well, in order to prepare for tomorrow, let's get a good night's rest.
Good work.

Do you... think they'd sell me?
.....
where I'd probably never be able to see my father again...
put me up as a prostitute or something...
Like in some foreign country...
If you lose,
then, really, anything could happen.
sniff
sniff
Uwaaaa!!!
Stop crying!
Crying won't solve a thing!

Don't worry.
You won't lose.
!?
Be-cause I've got a way
to win this game no matter what.
!?

TO BE CONTINUED



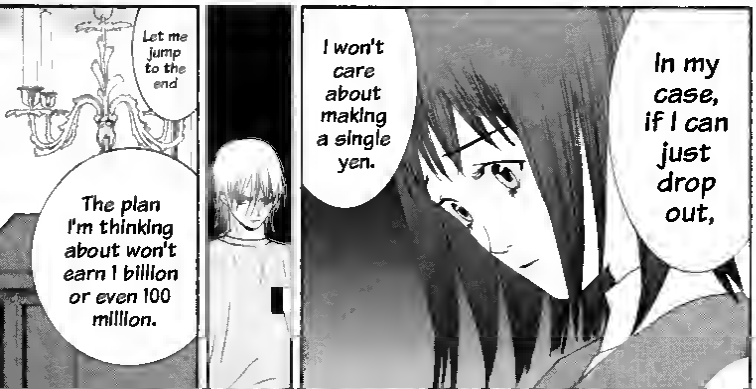
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム

Chapter 10
Hope

Come to my room.
I can't talk here.
Shh
Keep it down
Then how!?
To start with,
It's 1 billion!!
I mean—
Then, let me cut to the chase.
But if there are two left, then it's divided and you only get 1 billion
N-No, that would be great too!
Would that be a loss to you?
tell me what winning means to you.
Um, surviving to the end and getting 2.1 billion... right?
what would you say to receiving only 40 million?

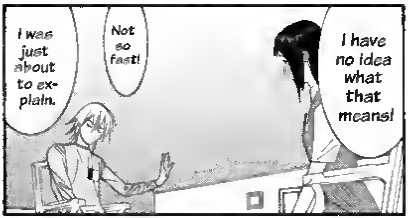
If I could even get that, I'd be happy.
would be more than enough.
Well, even that much
.....

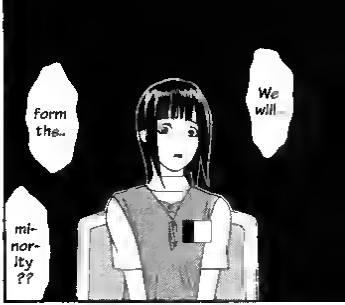
I think most people would be satisfied with that.
and it would allow you to drop out of this game,
If you really had a way to get 40 million,
most of the people gathered here didn't even get 10 million from the first round.
I think I mentioned it earlier ...


Let me jump to the end
The plan I'm thinking about won't earn 1 billion or even 100 million.
I won't care about making a single yen.
In my case, if I can just drop out,

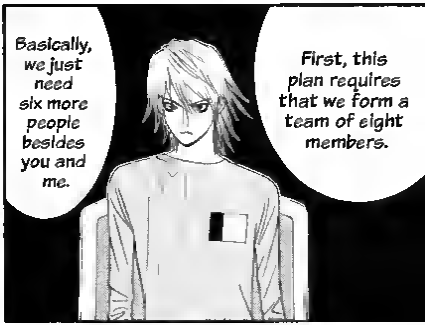
But around 40 million per person would be possible.
!!
What I can say for sure is
that it will definitely be enough to drop out.
Mm-hm.
Can you really make that happen!?
!!

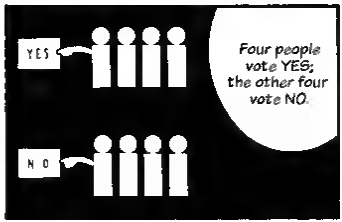
I'm forming a team!
Mr Akiyama...
I thought about that too.
but, it's impossible.
Even if you make a team... even if you make a majority.
this game is about the minority
There's no way to win!
Ha ha ha
No one said we're forming a majority
With our team,
we'll form the minority!

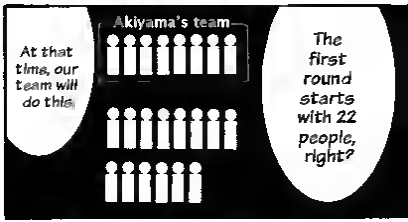

I was just about to explain.
Not so fast!
I have no idea what that means!


We will...
form the..
minority ??

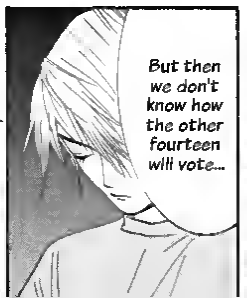
All of us will need to vote according to plan.
What plan?
?


Basically, we just need six more people besides you and me.
First, this plan requires that we form a team of eight members.

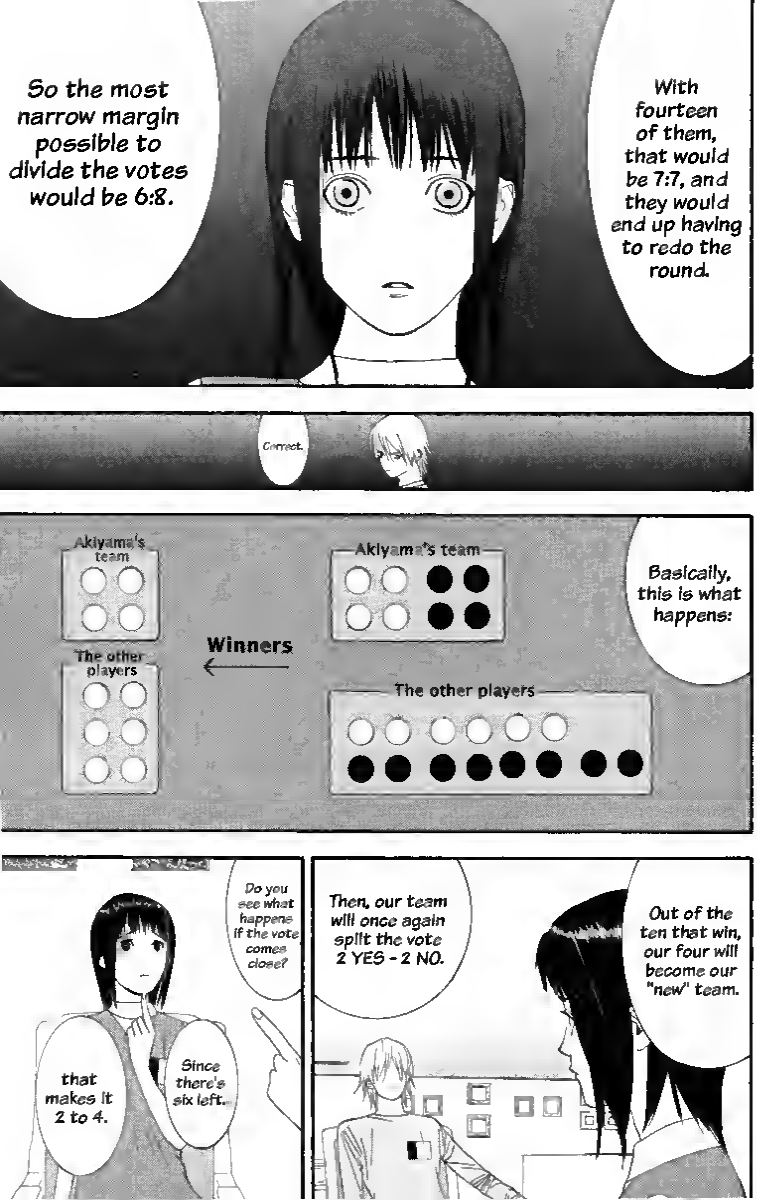

YES
NO
Four people vote YES; the other four vote NO.

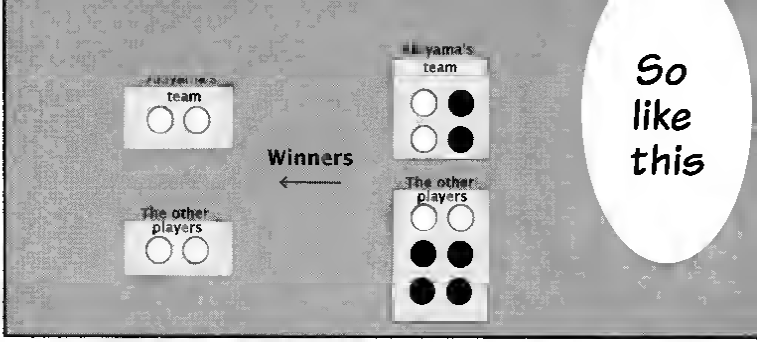

At that time, our team will do this.
Akiyama's team
The first round starts with 22 people, right?

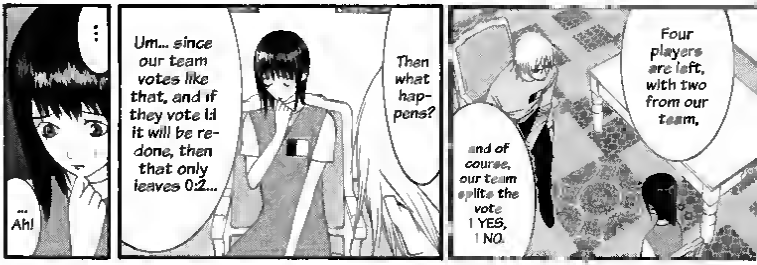
What would the numbers be?
Just imagine for a moment that it was the closest possible scenario.


But then we don't know how the other fourteen will vote...

?
So you mean we'd split into two groups of four and each stick to the group's vote?
Yes.


So the most narrow margin possible to divide the votes would be 6:8.
With fourteen of them, that would be 7:7, and they would end up having to redo the round.
Correct.
Basically, this is what happens:
Akiyama's team
Akiyama's team
Winners
The other players
The other players
Do you see what happens if the vote comes close?
Since there's six left.
that makes it 2 to 4.
Then, our team will once again split the vote 2 YES - 2 NO.
Out of the ten that win, our four will become our "new" team.


Fujiwara's team
Yamada's team
Winners
The other players
The other players
So like this


...
Ah!
Um... since our team votes like that, and if they vote it it will be re-done, then that only leaves 0:2...
Then what happens?
Four players are left, with two from our team,
and of course, our team splits the vote 1 YES, 1 NO.

We win!
Someone from our team will survive no matter what!!

our team will definitely win.
Although our little simulation assumed the closest case, if the votes are spread wider, then we win that much faster.
Whatever the case,
DROP OUT!
That leaves 1.05 billion.
¥105000000
¥105000000
Out of the 21 billion, half will be spent by the winner when he or she announces the decision to drop out.
How much is it?
We'll split this evenly among us all
Uh...
1.05 billion minus 700 million leaves
350 million in all.
Since the seven team members who lost will each have a debt of 100 million,
43 million 750 thousand per person!
!!

We can all drop out!
That's over 40 million each!

In theory, it's foolproof.
But...
Now, now --
Mr. Akiyama, you're the greatest!
This will really work!!
You're incredible!
Amazing!!

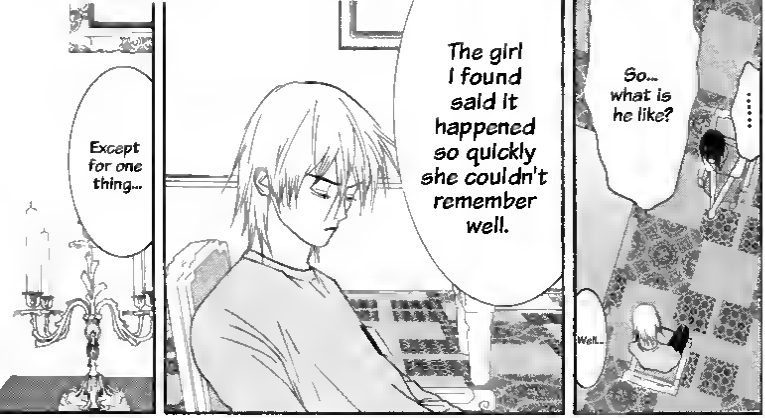
In particular,
think about why I'm here.
Why's that?
We're not free from worry.

Oh!
You mean the person who stole the 100 million and snuck in?
...Bingo.

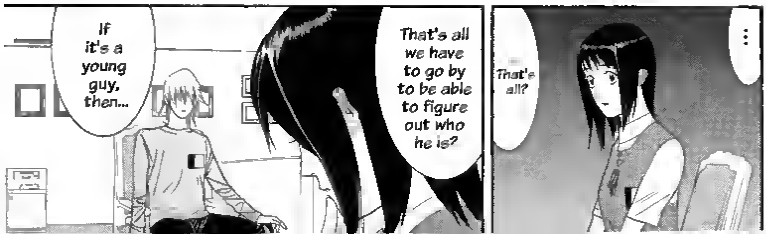
Mr. X is looking out at us from within the crowd.
Let's call this person "Mr. X" for now.

Clearly, someone very cruel and cunning.
For starters, he deceived someone without a second thought and stole their money
He is clearly someone who doesn't belong here.
And worst of all...

he's practically holding a blank check worth 100 million.
22
That makes him the only person here not afraid to lose.
He's at no risk.
if he loses, he'll just pay it off.
for Mr. X.
but not so
If the people here lose, they each face a 100 million yen debt.
we can't have a traitor in our team.
So, in short,
My plan hinges on the fact that not only everyone will keep their word and vote the right way, but also that the winner will give us back the money.
"Mr. X" on our team, at all costs.
That's why we must avoid getting

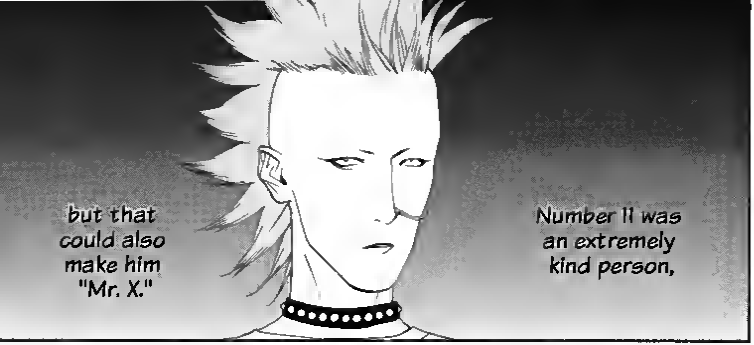

So... what is he like?
.....
Well...
The girl I found said it happened so quickly she couldn't remember well.
Except for one thing...

"He was a young guy,"
she said.

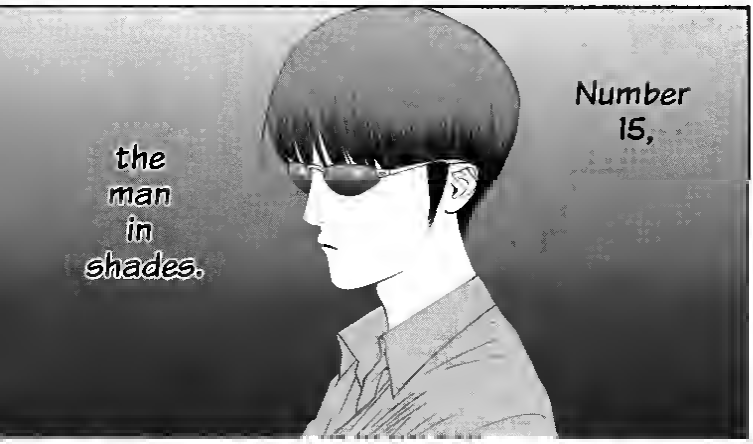

That's all we have to go by to be able to figure out who he is?
If it's a young guy, then...
That's all?
...

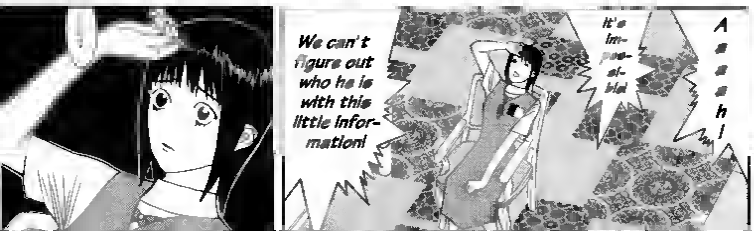
Number 2.
Then the opposite, a complete chatterbox.
Number 12...
There wee the straight-faced men who ignored me when I tried to talk to him.
he wesn't even 20 yet.
Number 9 told me
Number 5, and pretty young too.
A salary man who works in sales...
that a couple of years ago he went to Koushien.*
Number 1 said
He's still an undergrad.
Number 13 seemed very mature.
wee very young.
Oh, and number 8
I was afraid to get close to him, but I think he might have been kinda young.
Number 6...

(*T/N : Koushien is the stadium that the Japanese national high school baseball tournament is held. She thinks he may have been on a team.)


but that could also make him "Mr. X."
Number 11 was an extremely kind person,

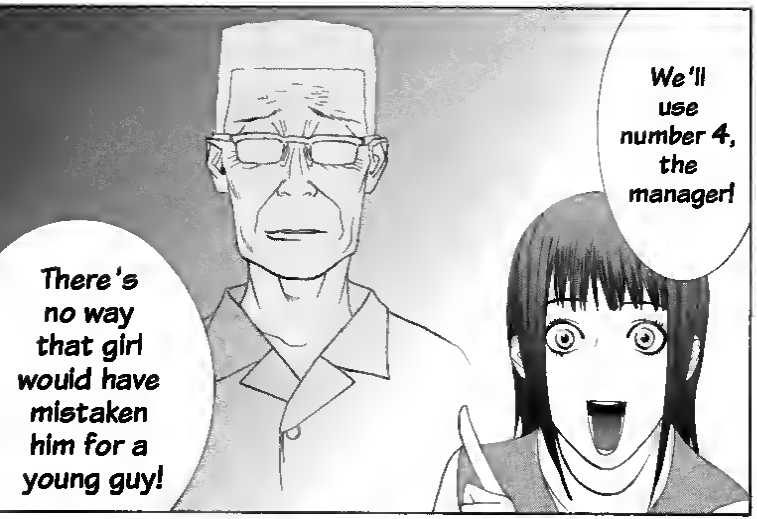
There's that suspicious guy, too.
Oh, yeah


the man in shades.
Number 15,


We can't figure out who he is with this little information!
It's impossible!
Aaaaah!

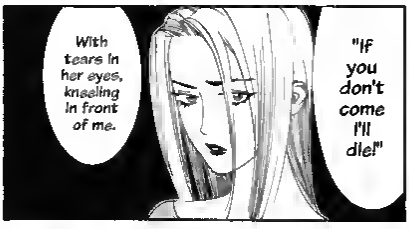
Wait... no, we can do it!
Just stay away from young guys!
!?
Mr. Akiyama! Let's make a team!
One that won't include him no matter what!
Out of all 22 players,
there are only five women besides me!!
Remember the rehearsal today?
That's when I realized it!!

No problem!
Even if we take them in, we're still one short.
Five women, hm...


We'll use number 4, the manager!
There's no way that girl would have mistaken him for a young guy!

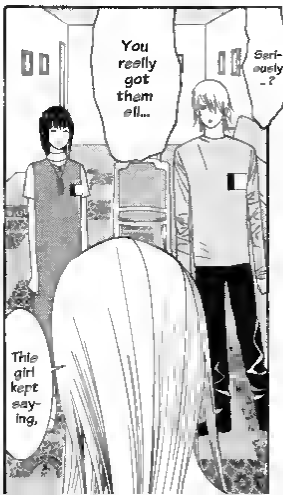
One hour later
I think they should still all be there!
Right! I'm going to the lobby to get our members!
Hold on!!
Our team is complete!
Right!? So that's eight!
Well, I guess ...

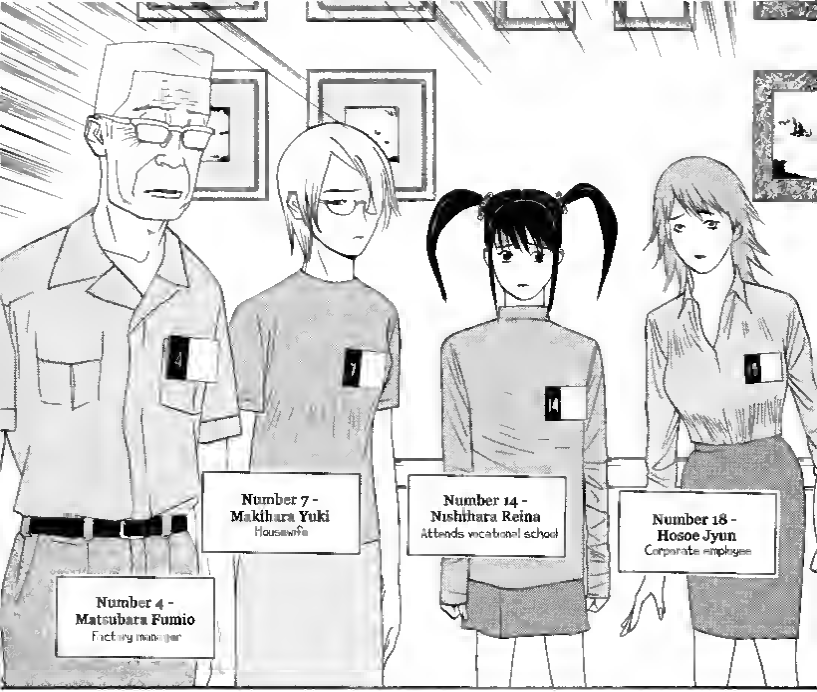
Mr. Akiyama!
I brought them all!
Number 3 - Miyahara Hitomi
Nightlife worker
Number 10 - Tamura Makiko
Works several part time jobs


With tears in her eyes, kneeling in front of me.
"If you don't come I'll die!"

this isn't a time to be concerned about appearances!
-Well,
and kneeling?
Crying-
"Die"-?

We have no time to waste!
Well, you're right


You really got them all...
Seriously-?
This girl kept saying,

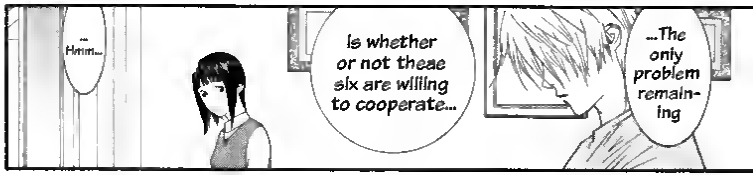

Number 4 -
Matsubara Fumio
Factory manager
Number 7 -
Makihara Yuki
Housewife
Number 14 -
Nishihara Reina
Attends vocational school
Number 18 -
Hosoe Jyun
Corporate employee

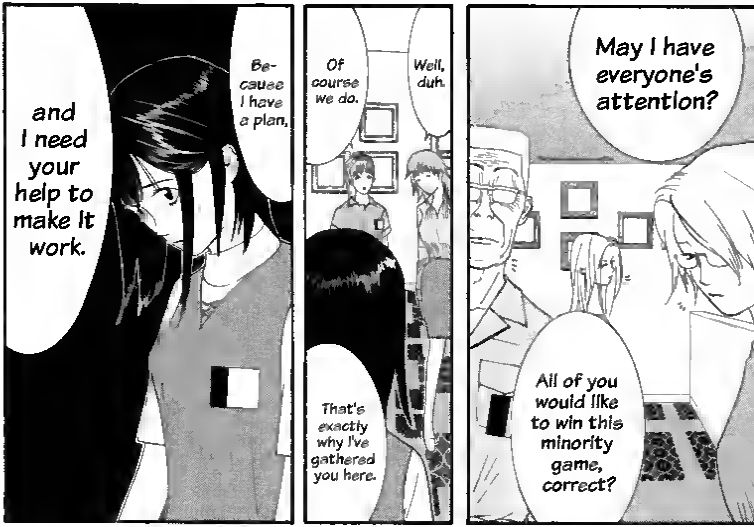
All right! Listen up, everyone!
We're going to rehearse the plan!

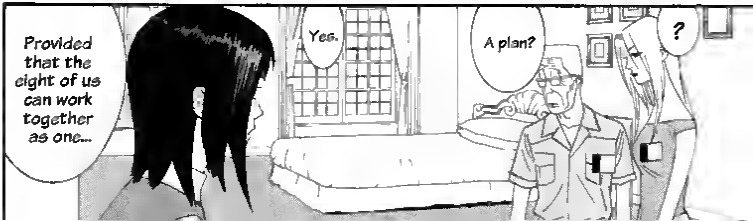
TO BE CONTINUED

10 No.
Tamura Makiko
Works several part-time jobs
Crazy about aesthetics. Purchased all kinds of beauty equipment and dieting products, even a facial mask worth a hundred thousand yen. Still hasn't realized the fact that she's clearly been ripped off.
18 No.
Hosoe Jyun
Corporate employee
A woman addicted to Host Clubs. Under the pressure of one host, she ran up an astronomical debt in tens of millions of yen. Naturally, she could pay off this debt with her body, but hasn't yet found the courage to take that step.
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
Chapter 11
Alliance
14 No.
Nishihara Reina
Attends vocational school
Completely fell for a "catch sale." Has been forced to buy paintings, English language learning kits, and health products. Recently enticed by the idea to apply for model searches, but unaware that this, too, is another kind of scam.
4 No.
Matsubara Fumio
Factory manager
Cornered by the influence of recession, he took out an enormous loan. Has a kind appearance, but managed to steal 20 million from his opponent in the first round.
3 No.
Miyahara Hitomi
Nightlife worker
Loves brand-name goods more than anything, so much so that she travels to Hawaii four times a year. Because of this, her debt is easily over 10 million yen.
7 No.
Makihara Yuki
Housewife
After getting married, she became completely hooked on Pachinko. This gambling habit is so bad that she repeatedly borrowed money from loan sharks. Even though this debt has grown expensively, she has kept it a complete secret from her husband.

I mean, we don't have any time to waste!
ぶーー
Why did you have us all come here?
ぶーー
Hey! Just tell us already!
ぶーー


...Hmm...
Is whether or not these six are willing to cooperate...
...The only problem remaining


May I have everyone's attention?
All of you would like to win this minority game, correct?
Well, duh.
Of course we do.
That's exactly why I've gathered you here.
Because I have a plan,
and I need your help to make it work.

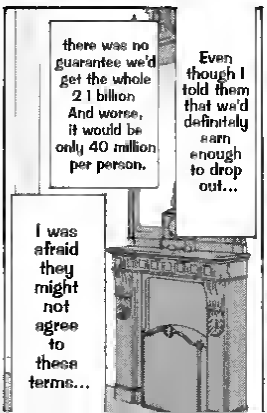

Provided that the eight of us can work together as one...
Yes.
A plan?
?

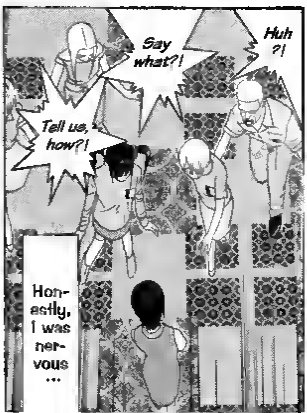
All of us will earn a reward...
and then be able to use it to get out of the Liar Game !!

!?

So, I tried to speak enthusiastically I probably didn't explain it very well, but I tried my hardest...

And in the end

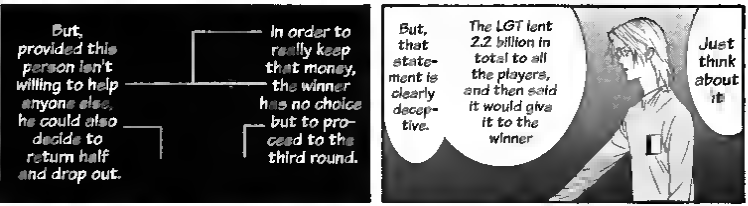

there was no guarantee we'd get the whole 2.1 billion And worse, it would be only 40 million per person.
Even though I told them that we'd definitely earn enough to drop out...
I was afraid they might not agree to these terms...

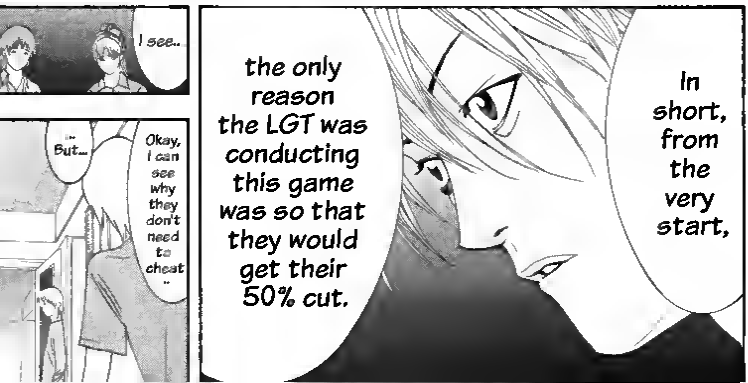

Say what?!
Huh ?!
Tell us, how?!
Honestly, I was nervous ...

LET'S DO IT!!
AMA-ZING!!
We'll be lucky enough to escape this thing without a scratch!
After all, losing means a 100 million debt!
40 million is plenty!!
B-but remember, you'll only get 40 million...
Everyone loved it.
That's not what your nameplate says...
Takada Michiko
You're great!!
Wait --?
Mr. Akiyama.
Did you come up with this idea?
He did.
No..
Didn't know you can do that...
Oh..?
You see, she wasn't able to be here..
He's here as her representative.

Simply because they have no reason to.
I guarantee you, they aren't.
I know the dealer already mentioned it, but what if the LGT is trying to cheat us?
Can we really be sure it will work?
But, um...

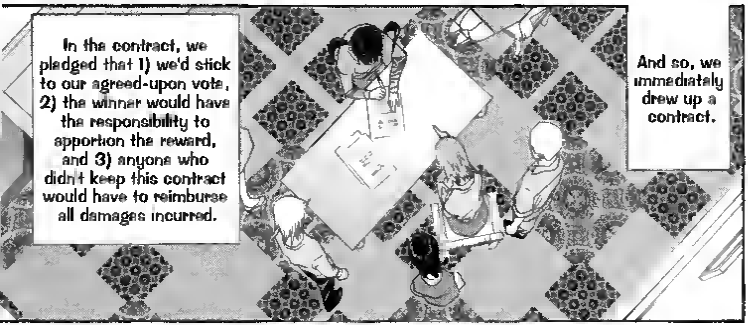
even if they didn't lift a finger to try and rig it, it's already constructed to turn a profit
And the way this game works,
And remember, they promised a reward of 10 billion to anyone who discovers fraud on their part.

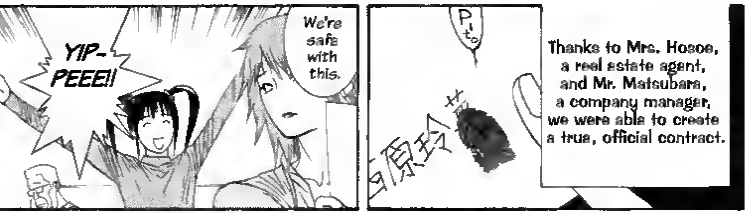

But, provided this person isn't willing to help anyone else, he could also decide to return half and drop out.
In order to really keep that money, the winner has no choice but to proceed to the third round.
But, that statement is clearly deceptive.
The LGT lent 2.2 billion in total to all the players, and then said it would give it to the winner
Just think about it

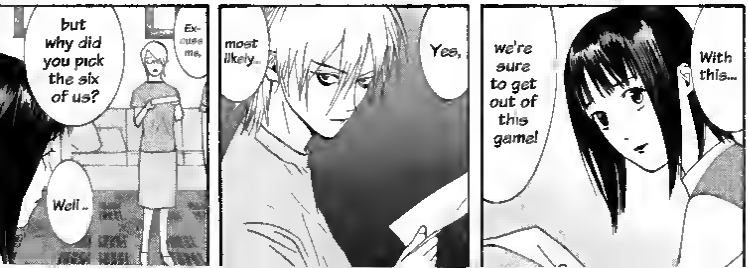

I see..
... But...
Okay, I can see why they don't need to cheat ..
the only reason the LGT was conducting this game was so that they would get their 50% cut.
In short, from the very start,

Is there any guarantee that no one in our group will betray us?
It is possible that they could just walk out on us...?
I don't want to imagine it, but...
This plan relies on the fact that the winner, as our representative, will get the full reward.
Betray?
?
we'll write up a proper contract.
Because before anyone participates in this plan,
No need to worry.
I guess a contract would make it safe...
Hmm...
After all, this is just business.
As long as there's a contract, I'm in.
Agreed.

will everyone here cooperate in our plan??
Okay then,


In the contract, we pledged that 1) we'd stick to our agreed-upon vote, 2) the winner would have the responsibility to apportion the reward, and 3) anyone who didn't keep this contract would have to reimburse all damages incurred.
And so, we immediately drew up a contract.


YIP-PEEE!!
We're safe with this.
Thanks to Mrs. Hosoe, a real estate agent, and Mr. Matsubara, a company manager, we were able to create a true, official contract.


but why did you pick the six of us?
Excuse me,
Well..
most likely..
Yes,
we're sure to get out of this game!
With this...

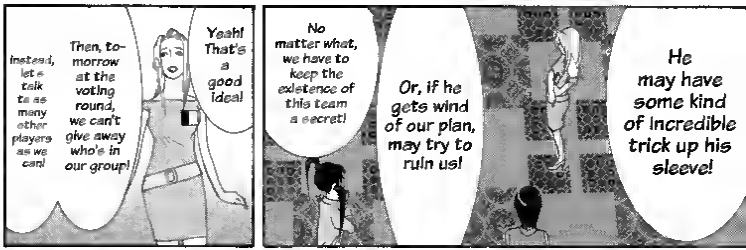
He's a very dangerous person... "Mr. X."
Out of all 22 players, there's one hiding among us.
Mr. X?
?
Yup
and me, because I'm older.
Oh, so that's why you chose all five women.
"Young man?"
Ms. Takada Michiko was a player in the first round who succeeded in stealing 1 billion from her opponent. Full of regret, she came here to the LGT, determined to return both of the suitcases. But this particular "young man" posed as a LGT employee and tricked her, stealing all of it.
It's nice and all to know that Mr. X is a young guy, but
Hey!
Mr. Akiyama, you joined the game in place of this Ms. Takada?
No matter how you look at it, everyone seems suspicious
Unfortunately, we don't
Well -
Or maybe, some idea of which number he might be?
don't you have any other details to go by?

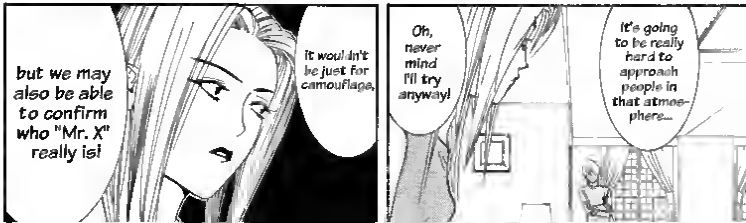
You mean the guy with the sunglasses??
15?!
. .player 15
Especially
Huh!! Ms. Hitomi, you were thinking the same thing?
He was the only one who seemed so calm...
I also sensed something strange about him!!
No way!!
What about him?
Yes...
I'm confident that player 15 is this "Mr. X"!!!
If I'm allowed to speak my opinion here,
Way too suspicious!!
It's suspicious!
then everything makes sense.
If we consider that he practically already has a check for 1 billion...
"X"...
Yeah . that man has to be him...

Since we can be sure he's not among us, our victory is guaranteed!
Well, for the time being ~
Oh, lighten up! So what if we're playing detective here?
Now, now

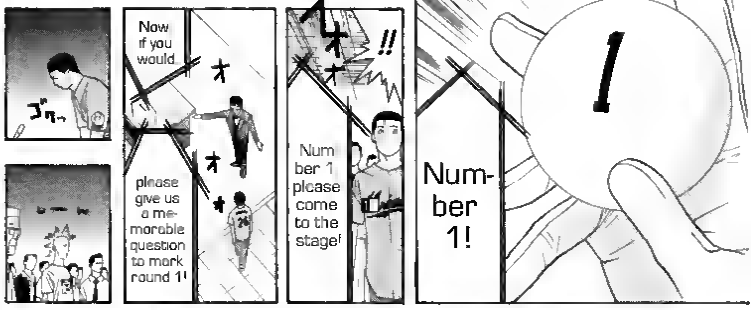
That's not true!! There's plenty to do!!
But now, with our no-fail plan, we don't have to do a thing!
The dealer said that victory will go to the person who spends his time wisely..
How come ?
Phew... Aah, what a letdown.
ドス…

be careful of this "Mr. X"!!
More than anything else,


Instead, let's talk to as many other players as we can!
Then, tomorrow at the voting round, we can't give away who's in our group!
Yeah! That's a good idea!
No matter what, we have to keep the existence of this team a secret!
Or, if he gets wind of our plan, may try to ruin us!
He may have some kind of incredible trick up his sleeve!

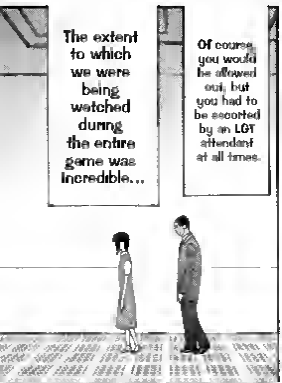

but we may also be able to confirm who "Mr. X" really is!
It would n't be just for camouflage,
Oh, never mind I'll try anyway!
It's going to be really hard to approach people in that atmosphere...

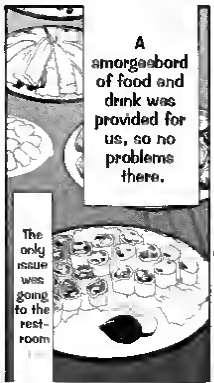
The clock had already past
two in the morning.
After sealing our pact, each of us returned to our rooms.
Right!
We have to make this plan work! Okay?
Don't forget to pay close attention to number 15!
The next day
the first round of the "Minority Rule" will commence!
Ladies and gentlemen! Starting right now,
determine the question
Heh heh heh
We will first

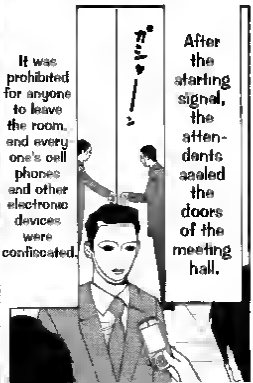


*TN - a bit of background - Hideki Matsui has a salary that surpasses even that of Ichiro Suzuki. Ichiro is thought to be the best hitter for average and has broken all sorts of US baseball records, whereas Matsui also has all sorts of records, notably being the first Japanese player to hit 100 homeruns, a 3-time MVP, and his former team in Japan (Yomiuri Giants) also won the series 3 times.

If you agree with this statement, vote YES.
If, however, you believe in Matsui, vote NO.
The curtains were now drawn for the "Minority Rule" Game.


The extent to which we were being watched during the entire game was incredible...
Of course, you would be allowed out, but you had to be escorted by an LGT attendant at all times.


A smorgasbord of food and drink was provided for us, so no problems there.
The only issue was going to the restroom

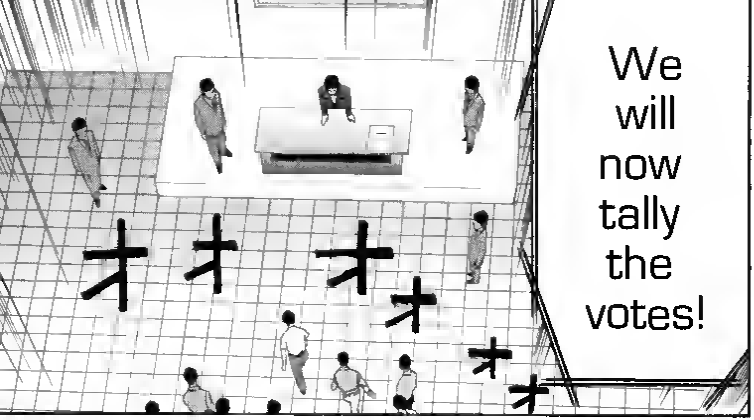

It was prohibited for anyone to leave the room, and every one's cell phones and other electronic devices were confiscated.
After the starting signal, the attendants sealed the doors of the meeting hall.

has come up with some-thing even better ...
maybe Mr. X
I'm starting to think that even though our plan was perfect,
I'm... getting more scared by the minute.
Nao.
I'm sure that it has to be him, number 15...
it can't be!
.....
NO!
defeat us all.
that number 15 just might...
All I can say is... I'm really afraid
there could possibly be a better plan than ours!
I just couldn't believe that amidst rules as strict as this game had,

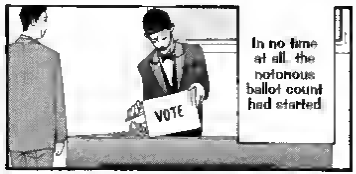
All he was doing was leaning against the wall, just like the day before.
he didn't show any signs of suspicious behavior.
However...
With that, all I did was stare at 15 for the longest time.
and tried to progressively speak to more and more people outside our group.
They did just as we agreed upon yesterday.
As for the other members of our team,
our team leader, Mr. Akiyama,
As for
Even though it was her first time talking to these other players, she had passionate conversations without any hint of fear.
Especially Ms. Hitomi. Perhaps it was because of her work.
26
As usual...
He's up in the corner observing people again?
Three minutes left!!
However...
So much, in fact, that it didn't feel like we were fighting to not fall into enormous debt anymore...
At any rate, the hall was overwhelmingly calm.

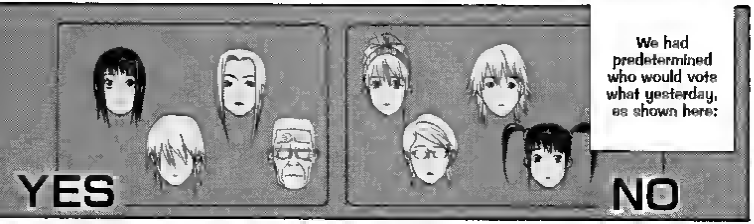
Right after the announcement that 3 minutes were left, everyone started placing their votes.
Quit pushing!! I said stop!
HEY! MOVE IT!
O-okay...
Number 15 might take advantage of the fighting to pull some trick!
Nao! Now's the time to be careful!

THE ROUND IS OVER....!!
But, number 15
didn't seem to do anything special.

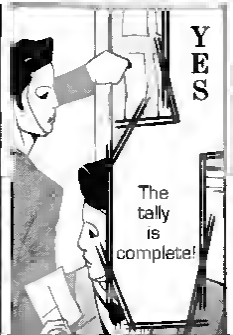

We will now tally the votes!

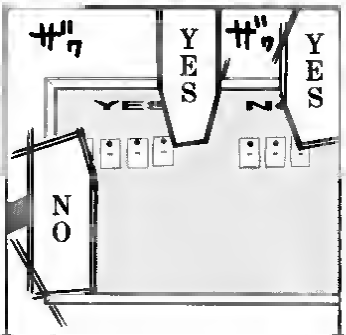
By the way, I never said what our group did.

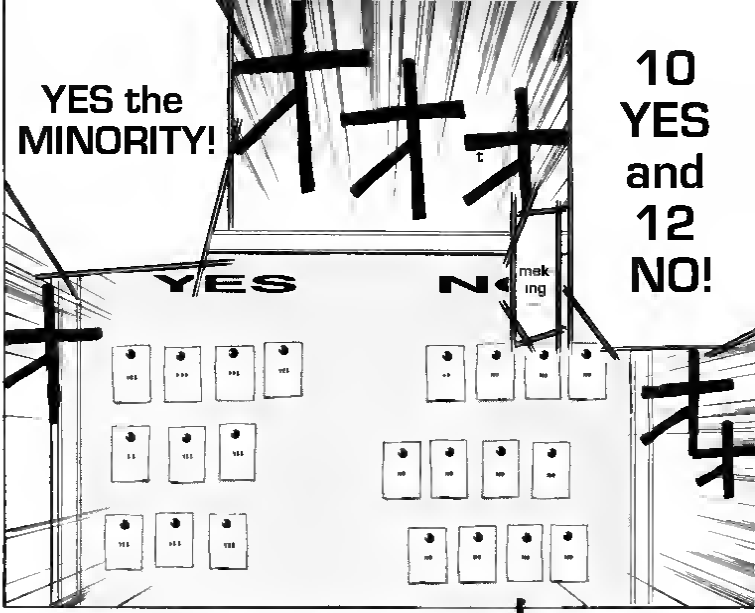

VOTE
In no time at all, the notorious ballot count had started

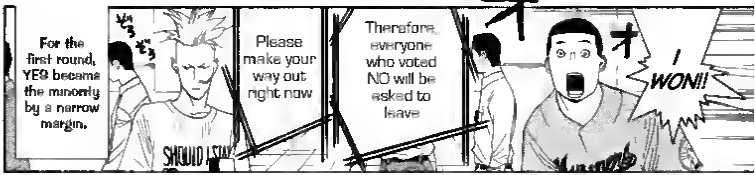

We had predetermined who would vote what yesterday, as shown here:
YES
NO

The results came ...


YES
The tally is complete!


YES
YES
YES
NO


YES the MINORITY!
10 YES and 12 NO!
YES
NO
making


For the first round, YES became the minority by a narrow margin.
Please make your way out right now
Therefore, everyone who voted NO will be asked to leave
I WON!!
SHOULD I STAY

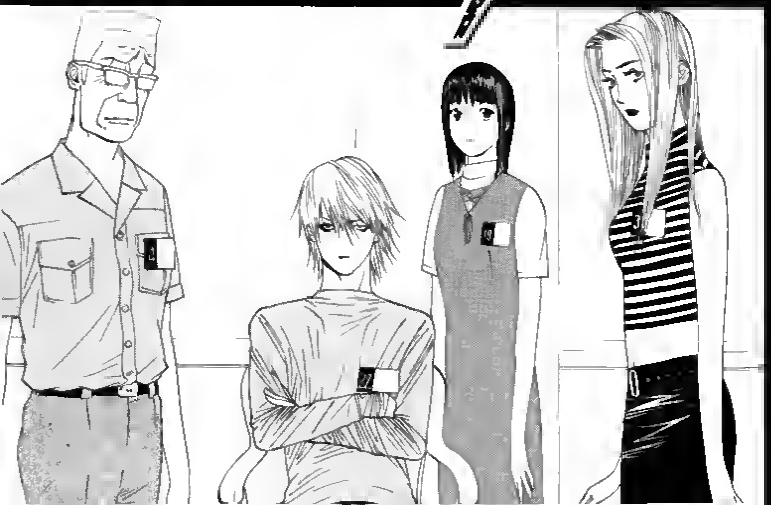
The rest is up to you
This is it for us...
Our remaining members were me, Mr. Akiyama, the manager, and Ms. Hitomi.
I...
I'm still in...!

Some-
thing
is
wrong.
Nao!
Look!
Over
at the
board!!
Just
as I
pre-
dict-
ed!
Eh!?
It had
been
there
all
along...
Among the
YES votes
that were
pinned to
the wall,
YES
number
15's
ballot
stood
out
among
the
bunch
...

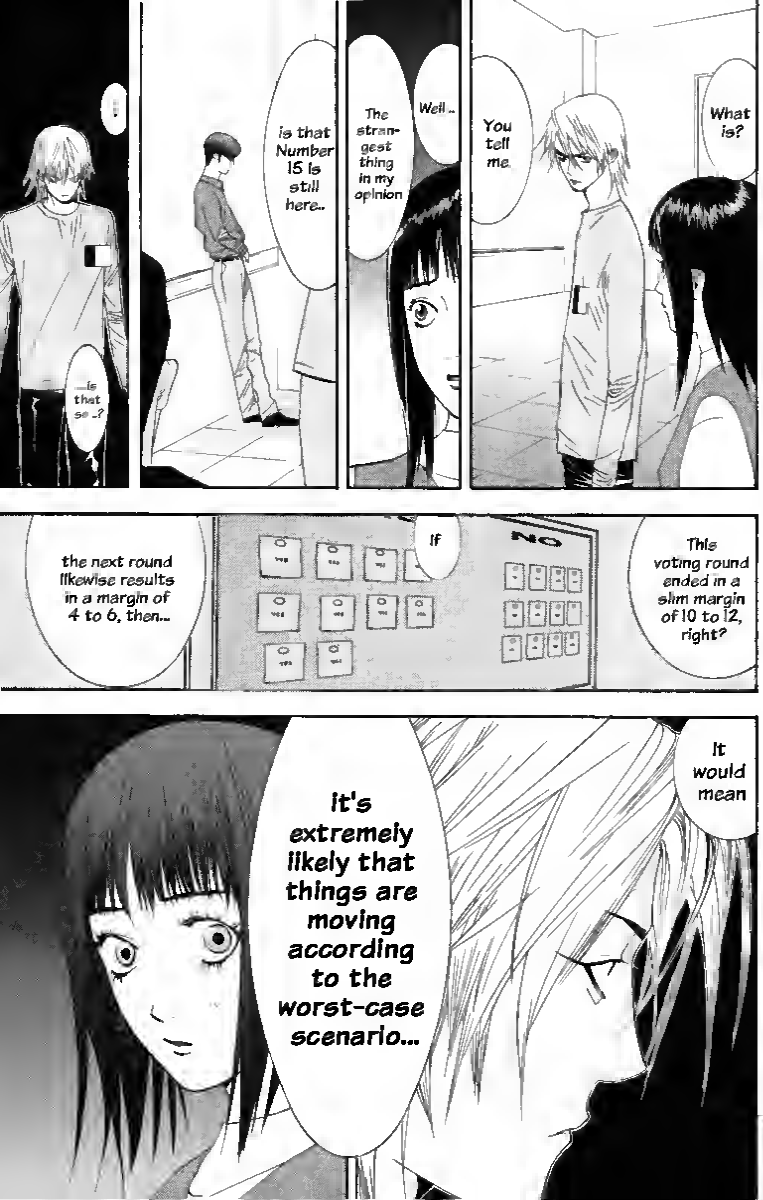
TO BE CONTINUED

LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム

Chapter 12
Catastrophe



...
So...he has to be...!
is still in the game!
Number 15...
Mr. Akiyama! It's terrible!
Look over there!
?
Something is wrong here.
is terribly wrong.
Something..

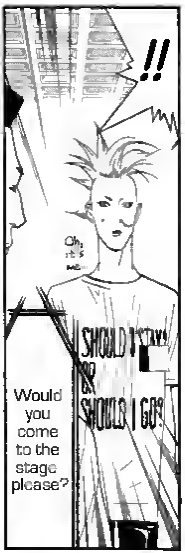

What is?
You tell me
Well..
The strangest thing in my opinion
Is that Number 15 is still here..
...Is that so..?
This voting round ended in a slim margin of 10 to 12, right?
If
NO
the next round likewise results in a margin of 4 to 6, then...
It would mean
It's extremely likely that things are moving according to the worst-case scenario...

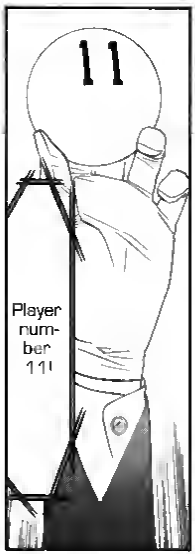
So, with the ten of you remaining,
we shall proceed to the second round of voting.
To begin,
let's select the player who will give us our question.
S-so then what?
Are we going to change plane?
.....

No...
We'll stick to the current one.

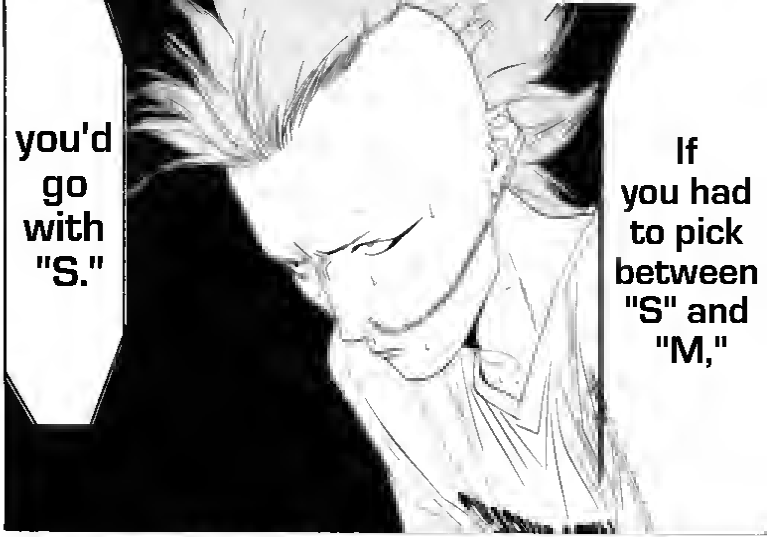
Pay extra close attention to each player's actions.
We might discover some-thing...

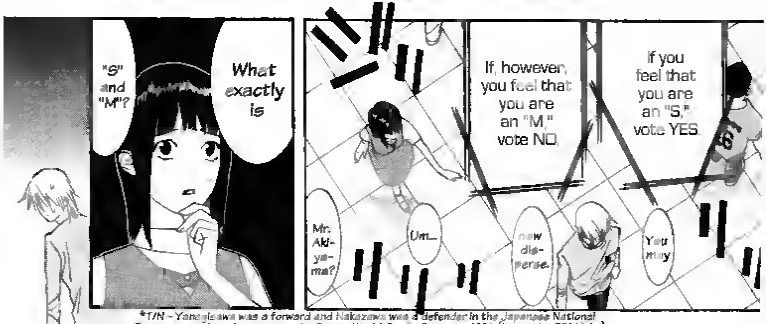
The question for this next round, if you would!
Just--


!!
SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?
Would you come to the stage please?

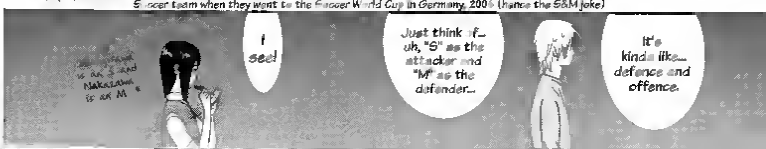

11
Player num-ber 11!

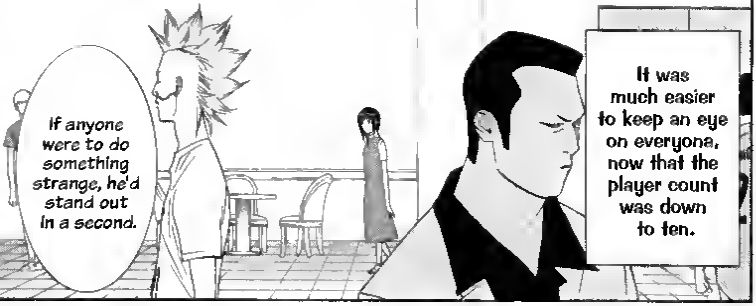
Um



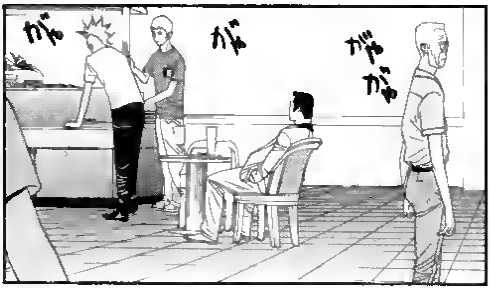

What exactly is "S" and "M"?
If, however, you feel that you are an "M," vote NO.
If you feel that you are an "S," vote YES.
Mr. Akiyama?
Um...
Your way now, please.

*T/N – Yanagisawa was a forward and Nakazawa was a defender in the Japanese National Soccer team when they went to the Soccer World Cup in Germany, 2006 (hence the S&M joke)




If anyone were to do something strange, he'd stand out in a second.
It was much easier to keep an eye on everyone, now that the player count was down to ten.

...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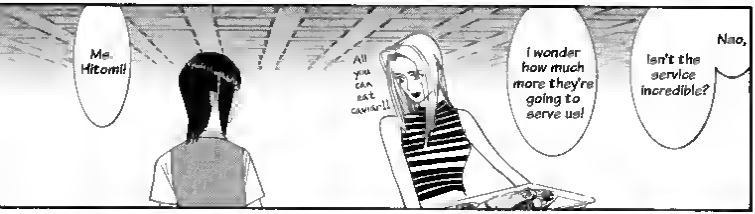
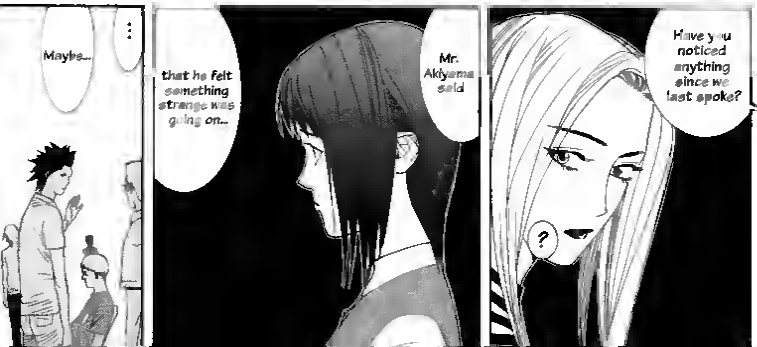
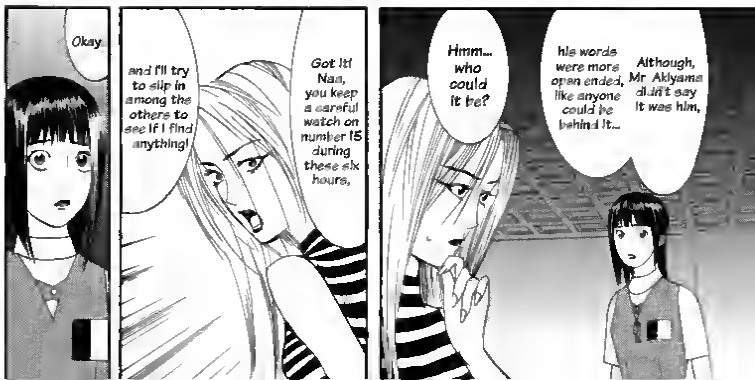
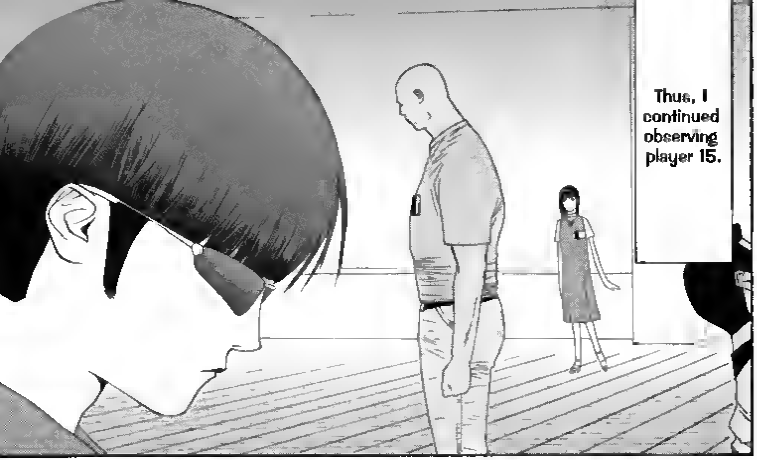

Me, Hitomi!
All you can eat caviar!!
I wonder how much more they're going to serve us!
Isn't the service incredible?
Nao,


...
Maybe...
that he felt something strange was going on...
Mr. Akiyama said
Have you noticed anything since we last spoke?
?

15
Number 15 really has done some thing...?

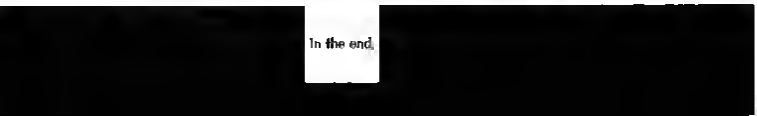

Okay
and I'll try to slip in among the others to see if I find anything!
Got it! Nan, you keep a careful watch on number 15 during these six hours,
Hmm... who could it be?
his words were more open ended, like anyone could be behind it...
Although, Mr. Akiyama didn't say it was him,

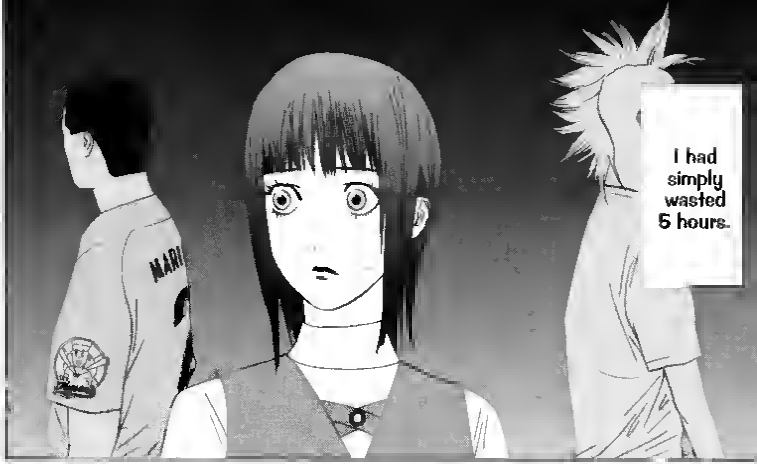

Thus, I continued observing player 15.

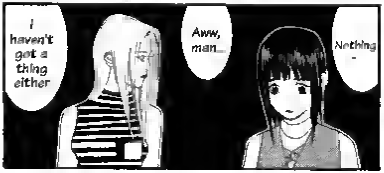
ガッガッ
バッバッ

however,
Zzz

he never did anything out of the ordinary.


In the end,


I had simply wasted 5 hours.

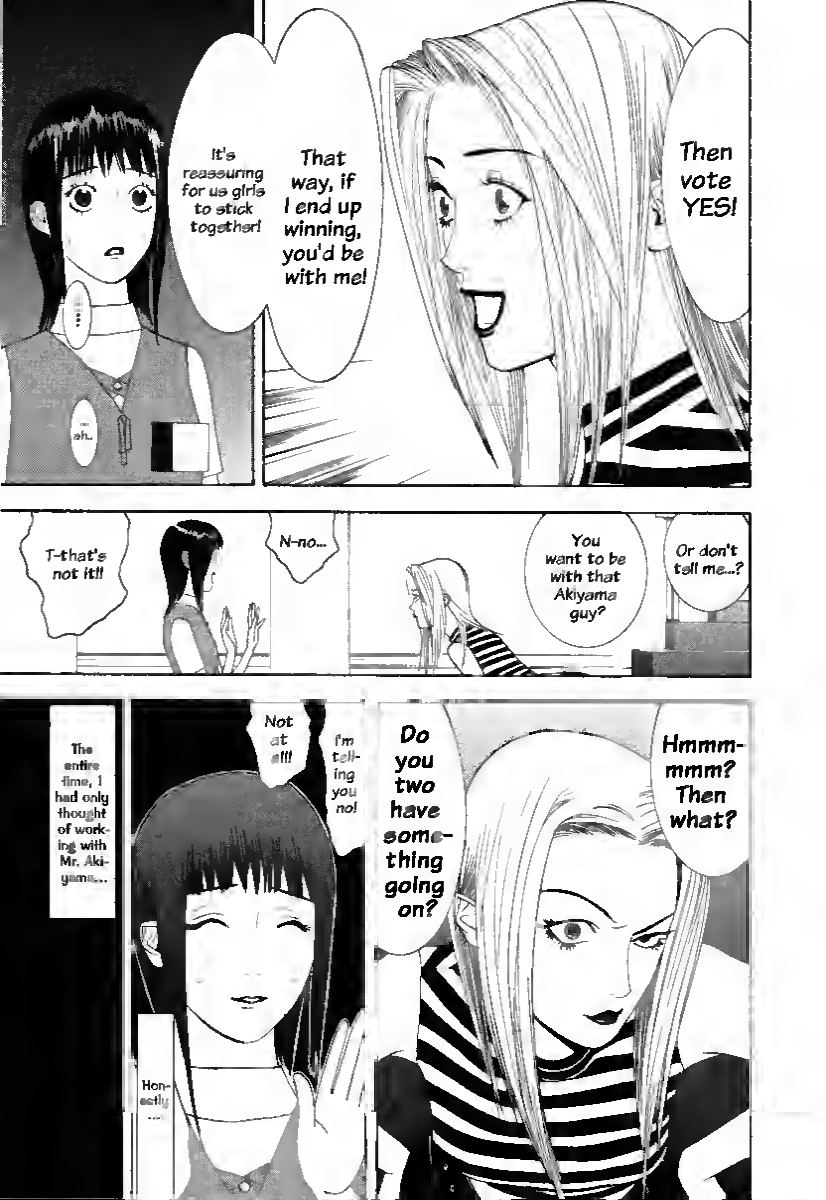

I haven't got a thing either
Aww, man...
Nothing -

how's it going?
Nao,

You're right
0 10342
and we still need to decide how we're going to vote.
Hey, there's still an hour left

I don't really have a preference...
U-uh...
How about you?

Let's see.
Ms. Hitomi, what do you think we should do?
I'll vote YES.
I'm fine with anything.


Then vote YES!
That way, if I end up winning, you'd be with me!
It's reassuring for us girls to stick together!
...
...ah.
You want to be with that Akiyama guy?
Or don't tell me...?
N-no...
T-that's not it!!
Hmmm-mmm? Then what?
Do you two have something going on?
I'm telling you no!
Not at all!!
Honestly...
The entire time, I had only thought of working with Mr. Akiyama...

But he said ...
No!
It's best that we go separate ways.

We were the ones who thought up this plan in the first place.
Seeing us together all the time would naturally cause the others to have doubts

Eh?!
That woman Hitomi seems to have her doubts about us anyways.

I understand your feelings but,
this is for the sake of the team.
...kay?

Ms. Hitomi...
I...
I think I'll vote differently than Mr. Akiyama, after all.
He said it's better that way, too.
Yeah, why not? Let's stick together!
Ah, and...
He also said it's better to not just split the vote by gender.
...huh?
"Mr. X" might still have some kind of trick he hasn't pulled yet.
And when that time comes,
Mr. Akiyama suggested that having a man and woman on the same team would be wise.

YES
NO
With that idea,
he said we should split up like this
..oh.
Without any real progress, our team had no choice
it had passed before I knew it
Even though 6 hours is a long time,
but to vote...

Time is up!
26

It would mean the worst-case scenario.
If the next round likewise results in a margin of 4 to 6, then

We will now tally the votes!
VOTE

It couldn't be!
Worst-case scenario?
NO
NO
YES

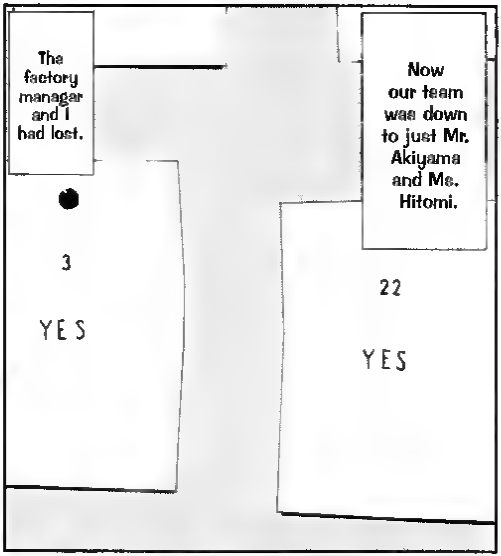
The tally is complete!

4 to 6!
YES has become the minority!
YES
It's...it's just as Mr. Akiyama said!
!!
Those who voted NO will now be asked to leave

X... it's X!!
He's done something after all!

Akiyama Hitomi...
Please win!

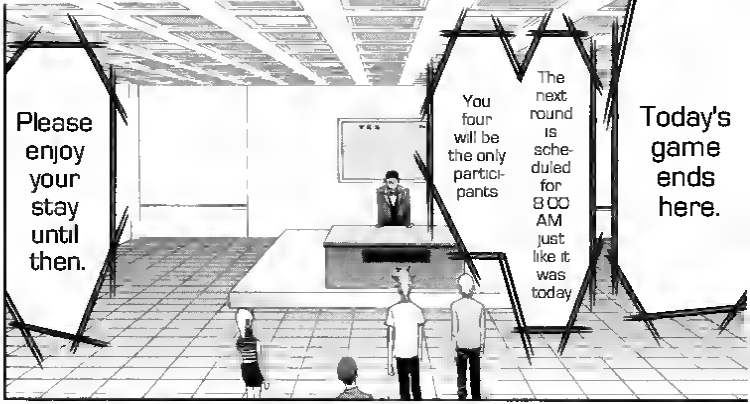
Leave it to me!


Tha factory managar and I had lost.
3
YES
Now our team waa down to just Mr. Akiyama and Ma. Hitomi.
22
YES

aa I waa juat about to laava, what do you think I saw?
Thus,

It was none other than the ominous figure of player 15.
He had somehow managed to win again...

You are now asked to leave.
Those with the majority vote lose this round
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
Chapter 13
Light vs Dark
SHOULD I
OR
SHOULD I

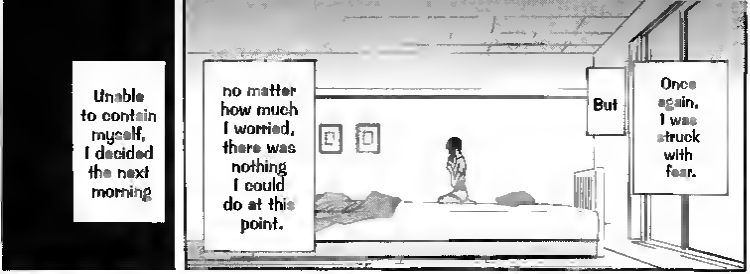

Please enjoy your stay until then.
You four will be the only partici-pants
The next round is sche-duled for 8:00 AM just like it was today
Today's game ends here.

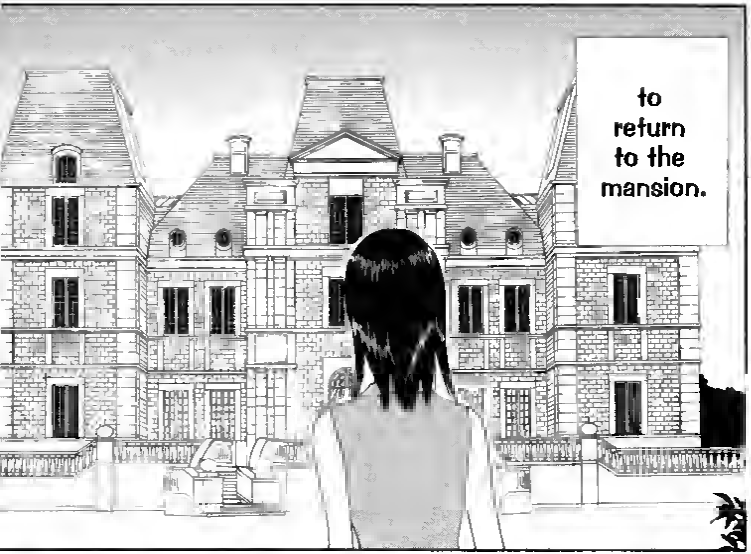
Mm-hm.
.....
"Mr. X"... is still here.
Hey

Oh, it's you.
Hello?

So?
Where are you now?
My phone's always on me, except during the game.
...thank goodness!
I thought I wouldn't be able to reach you.
Home.
I just arrived.
Did the LGT make any demands about repayment?
No, not so far.
Mr. Akiyama
That last round ended just like you predicted -- 4 to 6.
That means "Mr. X"...
Yes.
Without a doubt,
X has been working behind the scenes.
I see.
Sorry, but
can you call back later?
There's something I have to take care of

tomor-
row's
game
with-
out a
doubt.
If I don't
act now,
then we
will lose
Well,
talk
to you
later
Lose!?
With-
out
a
doubt
?!
Oh
no...
what're
we
going
to
do?
Then...
"X"
has
some-
thing
in
store!
Lose
...
tomor-
row's
game...
with-
out a
doubt?!

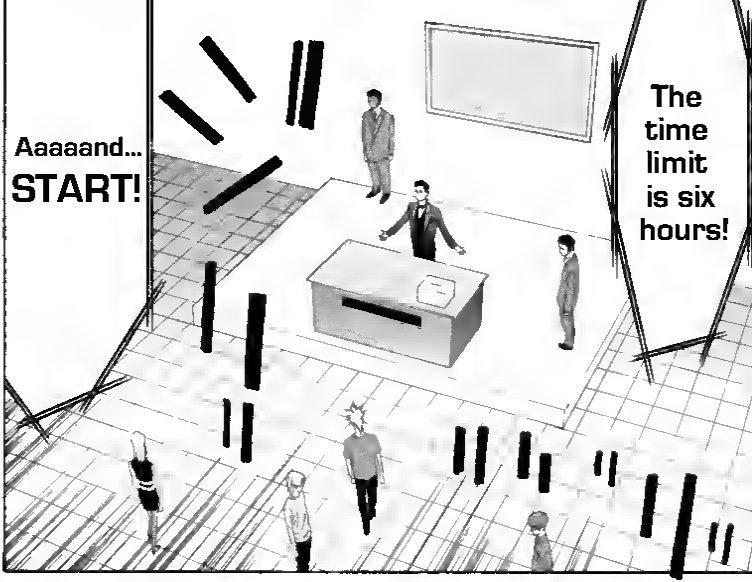

Unable to contain myself, I decided the next morning
no matter how much I worried, there was nothing I could do at this point.
But
Once again, I was struck with fear.


to return to the mansion.

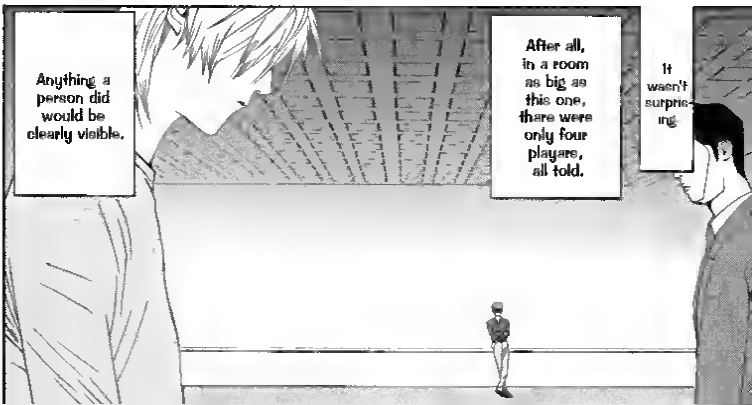
You can't do anything now!!
What for!?
But...
YOU CAME BACK!?
WHAT!?
...Yes

I'd only worry myself sick at home.
I bet he was just as worried as me and came to check things out
I met player one just a while ago
!?
Still!
Waltzing all the way back here?
Well you know,
I'm not the only one who came back
Okay
Please come to the reception hall.
Number 22? We will be starting the next round shortly.
I did something unnecessary, didn't I?
Silly me...
click
I'll call you when it's over.
The game's about to start.

Please come over to the stage.
That's me!!
Oh.
Player number 3!
3
the game began.
And so...
That's it!
!
What should I say?
ehmm...
Out of us four, the winner
will be myself!
But if you believe that you'll lose then vote NO
If you believe you'll win, vote YES
"Out of us four the one to win will be myself"
Thank you for that marvelous question!


Aaaaand...
START!
The time limit is six hours!

YES NO
At this stage,
everything was at a stalemate.

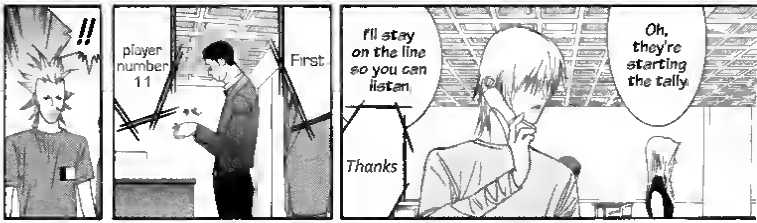

It wasn't surprising.
After all, in a room as big as this one, there were only four players, all told.
Anything a person did would be clearly visible.

Thus,
right?
But on the flip side, at least "X" can't pull any tricks now,
This sucks!
Sigh—
Evening!
In the last five minutes ..
000459
The six hours rolled by without anything happening.
The smallest one will be read last.
He's sure to pull a vote folded in half before one folded in four.
Because of the dealer.
heh heh heh
Why fold up your vote so small??
What are you doing?
You're right
Ha ha ha
What difference does it make? The outcome's still the same.
I don't understand you.
Fah!
And I want to be last... you see?

regardless of whether the other players both voted YES or both voted NO,
so basically
YES
NO
Our team had decided in advance that Ms Hitomi would vote YES and Mr Akiyama, NO
our team would win!
But Mr. 'X' is still out there! If he were to win
then--??
There's no way our team can lose... supposedly
Even if they voted YES and NO, it would just end up a draw
One minute remaining!
00:00:59

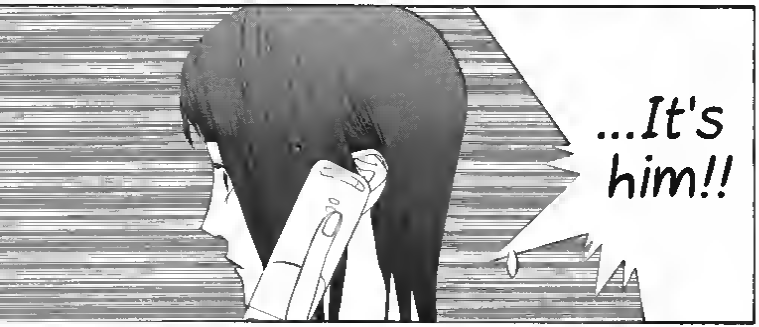
TIIIME'S UP!
Your phone is ringing.
Player number 22.
Hello?
Oh, hey.
The voting round is over
So, what happened?!
No one did anything the entire time.
Well ...
But it doesn't matter,
because I was able to finish the thing I wanted to do.

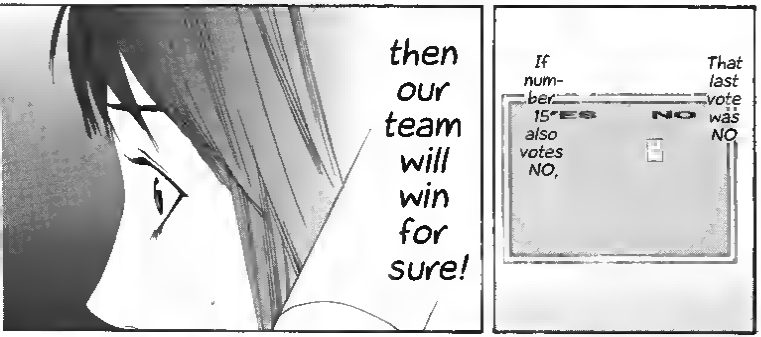
YES
NO
Ladies and gentle-men!
We will now tally the votes!!
VOTE


!!
player number 11
First
I'll stay on the line so you can listen
Thanks
Oh, they're starting the tally

S
NO
「NO」!!
オ
オ
オ
オ

Num-
ber
15
Next,


...It's
him!!

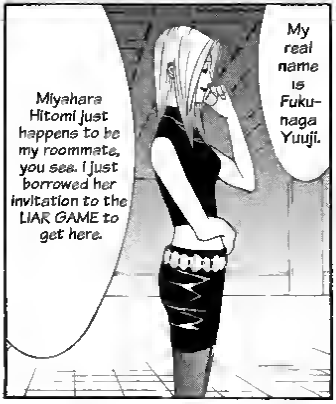

then
our
team
will
win
for
sure!
If
num-
ber
15
also
votes
NO,
YES
NO
That
last
vote
was
NO

Please,
let it
be
NO!!
Please,
let it
be
NO

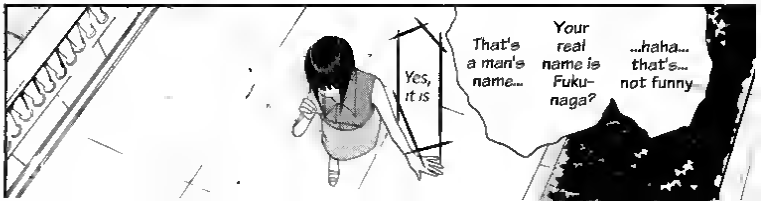
NO
NO
NO
「NO」!!
オオォ
オォ
WE WON!! MR. AKIYAMA, WE WON!!
WE WON!!
mmm
Aaaaah!
I guess I overestimated him a bit!
Thank goodness! "X" didn't do anything after all!
Hey, hey,
simmer down
Your plan was so perfect, Mr Akiyama, that he couldn't do a thing! Right!
YESSSSSS!!!
WE WON!!

Is Ms Hitomi there?
Yeah
Want to talk to her?
Hello?
Ms. Hi-to-mi !?
WE DID IT!! WE WON!!
I'm happy! Oh, I'm so happy!!
heh
heh... hehe heh
?
Hm? What's wrong?
Nao,
you're really stupid.
you know,
Eh?
You made the most simple mistake
The winner isn't "us"...

It's ME.


Miyahara Hitomi just happens to be my roommate, you see. I just borrowed her invitation to the LIAR GAME to get here.
My real name is Fukunaga Yuuji.

And my name isn't Hitomi.
W-what are you saying, Ms. Hitomi!?
!?
!?


Yes, it is
That's a man's name...
Your real name is Fukunaga?
...haha... that's... not funny

(T/N: came to mind: austin powers - "she's a man, baby")

!!
Haven't you heard of a "trans vestite"?
hee hee hee You really had no clue?
N- not at all
That's not all
Want to hear something even better?
I also happen to be...

"Mr. X"!
I had you the whole time! I mean, you even let me into your team!
ha ha ho!
That's
who I am!
The very same "young man" who stole 100 million from Takado Michiko before the start of this game
!?
...so basically,
isn't my real name, nor my real signature. You can't even compare it to the real Hitomi's.
The name that I wrote on your little contract
Can you figure out what this means?
!?
Since I'm "Mr X", I'm clearly not the real Miyahora Hitomi.

That's why the 2.1 billion is ALL MINE!
Your contract has no hold over me!

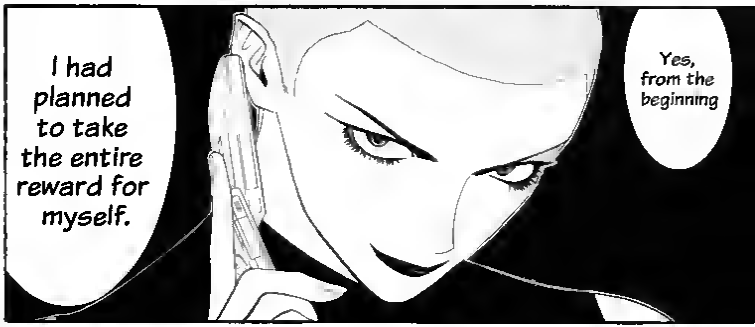
AA AA AA AA HA HA HA !!
Haaa-hahaha!
It's YOUR fault for being fooled so easily!!

TO BE CONTINUED

The 2.1 billion reward
HAA AA HA HA HA!
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
Chapter 14
Scheme
is ALL MINE!!!

Right from the start!

Since when ??
you tricked us?
Ms. Hitami –

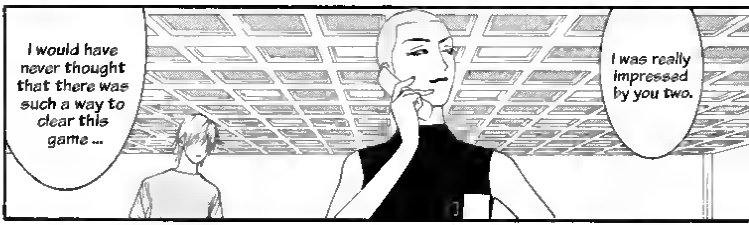

I had planned to take the entire reward for myself.
Yes, from the beginning

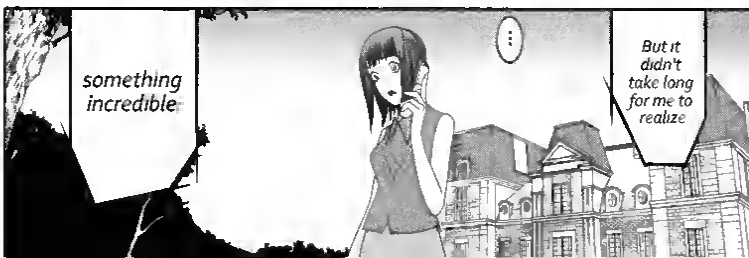
hee hee hee
Like, if Mr Akiyama were to become the minority then...
B-but there was no guarantee you'd become the last one on our team to win!
For yourself ...?! You mean...

!?
No matter what he tried to do!
Mr. Akiyama would NEVER have been in the minority

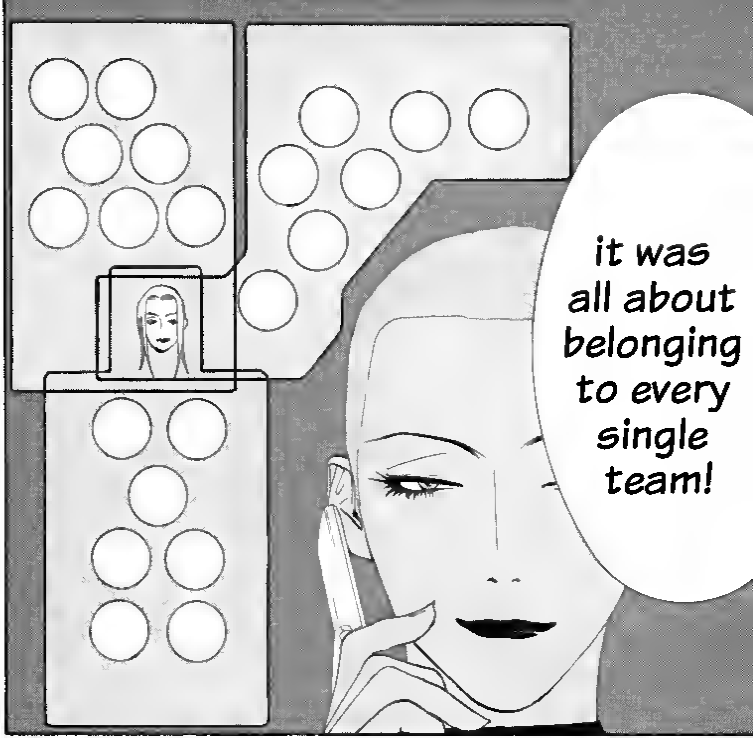
And that's because I've rigged this game
so that I would come out on top.
hee hee hee
The fact that I've become the minority is no stroke of luck
Everything was planned
!?
!?
hee hee hee
Tell you what — I'll explain it
so that even a fool like you can understand!

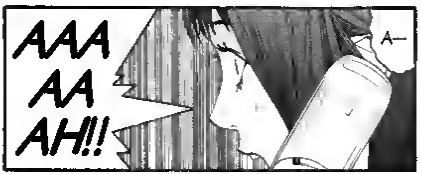
you told me your no-fail plan to win
Going back to the first day,

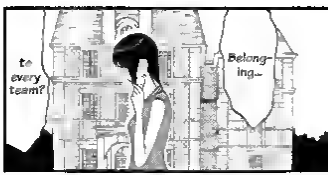

I would have never thought that there was such a way to clear this game...
I was really impressed by you two.

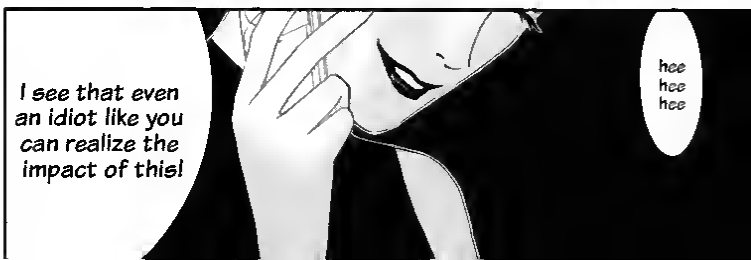

something incredible
But it didn't take long for me to realize

I would guarantee my victory 100%!
If I could create two more teams like Akiyama's,
there were 22 people You can't make three groups of eight out of that!
hee hee hee!
How would creating more teams guarantee victory?
I mean
I don't understand.
?
...rather,
It wasn't about dividing 22 people into three groups..
You're a slow one, I see!


it was all about belonging to every single team!


AAA AA AH!!
A—

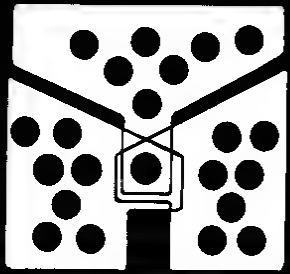

Belonging—
to every team?


hee hee hee
I see that even an idiot like you can realize the impact of this!

There were three teams of eight

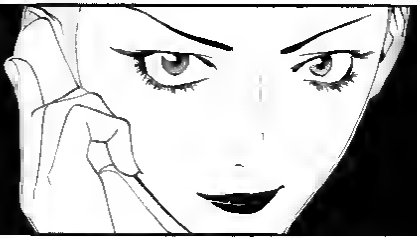
And, each team was trying to accomplish the same goal.

splitting the vote down the middle, each one aimed at having a single person win for the team

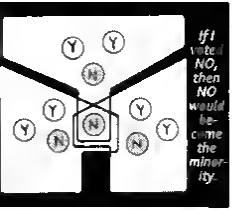


With this plan, each person in the team would have the same likelihood of becoming the winner,

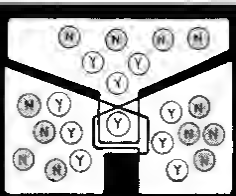
while,



in reality...



If I voted NO, then NO would become the minority.



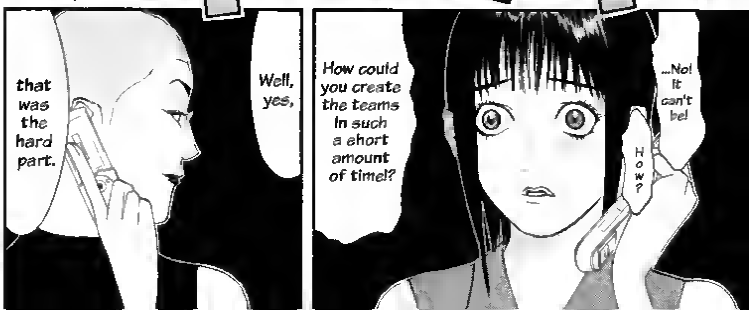
If I voted YES, then YES would become the minority

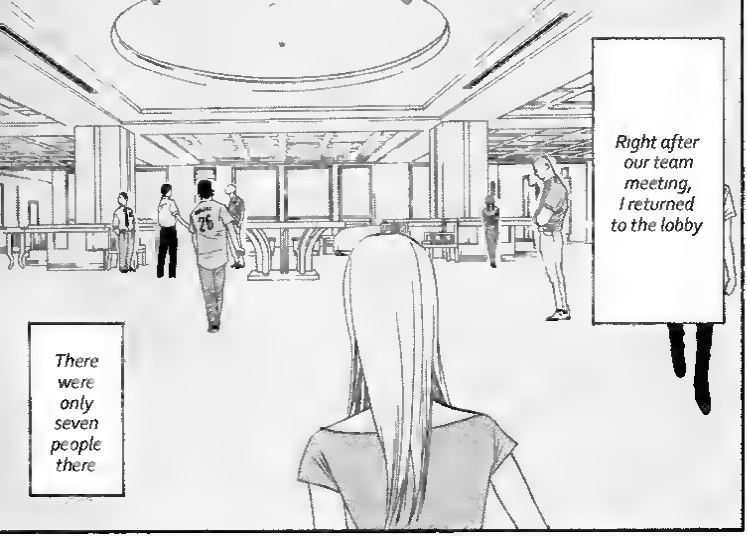
the fact that I was part of every team enabled me to always vote on the side that was two votes down

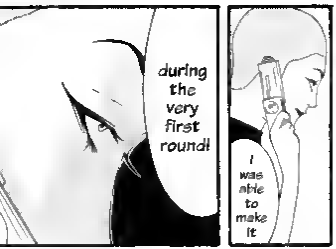
So, in the end,

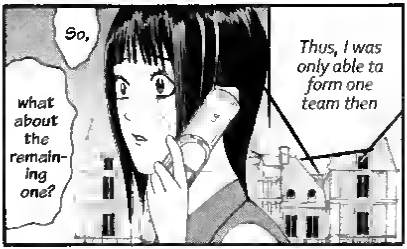
I would win no matter what!

In short, I am the one who decides the minority!
This entire game is under MY control—!!

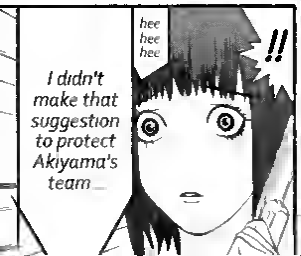

...No! It can't be!
How?
How could you create the teams in such a short amount of time!?
Well, yes,
that was the hard part.

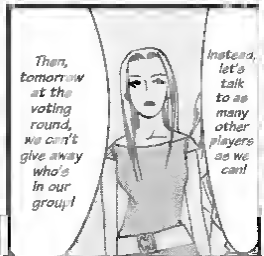

Right after our team meeting, I returned to the lobby
There were only seven people there


during the very first round!
I was able to make it


So,
what about the remaining one?
Thus, I was only able to form one team then

It was simple!
That's impossible, during the game?!
No way!


hee hee hee
!!
I didn't make that suggestion to protect Akiyama's team...


Then, tomorrow at the voting round, we can't give away who's in our group, I
Instead, let's talk to as many other players as we can!

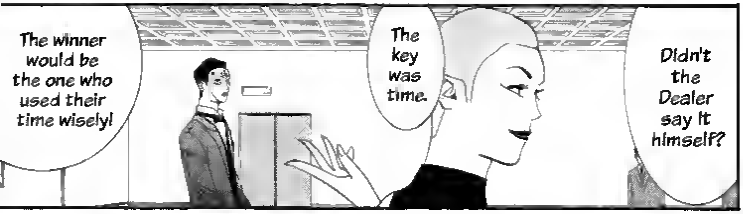
!?
Do you remember what I said back then?

I said it so that I wouldn't arouse any suspicion
as I made the negotiations for the final team!
What?
..No!
Well, it sure was enough to fool you!
ehehehe!
Nao.
You thought number 15 was Mr. X this whole time, didn't you!
That, too, was my doing.
That way, you would be too busy to doubt me for a second!
I allowed him to survive on purpose,
so that I could keep pushing the idea he was Mr X!
hee hee hee!! ah-ha haha!!

YOU TRICKED US TOO !?
WHAT THE HELL!?
Yup!
IS IN-VALID !?
YOU MEAN THIS CON-TRACT THAT WE ALL SIGNED
!
Yup!
All thanks to the fact that you guys were complete morons!
SON OF A BI—!!

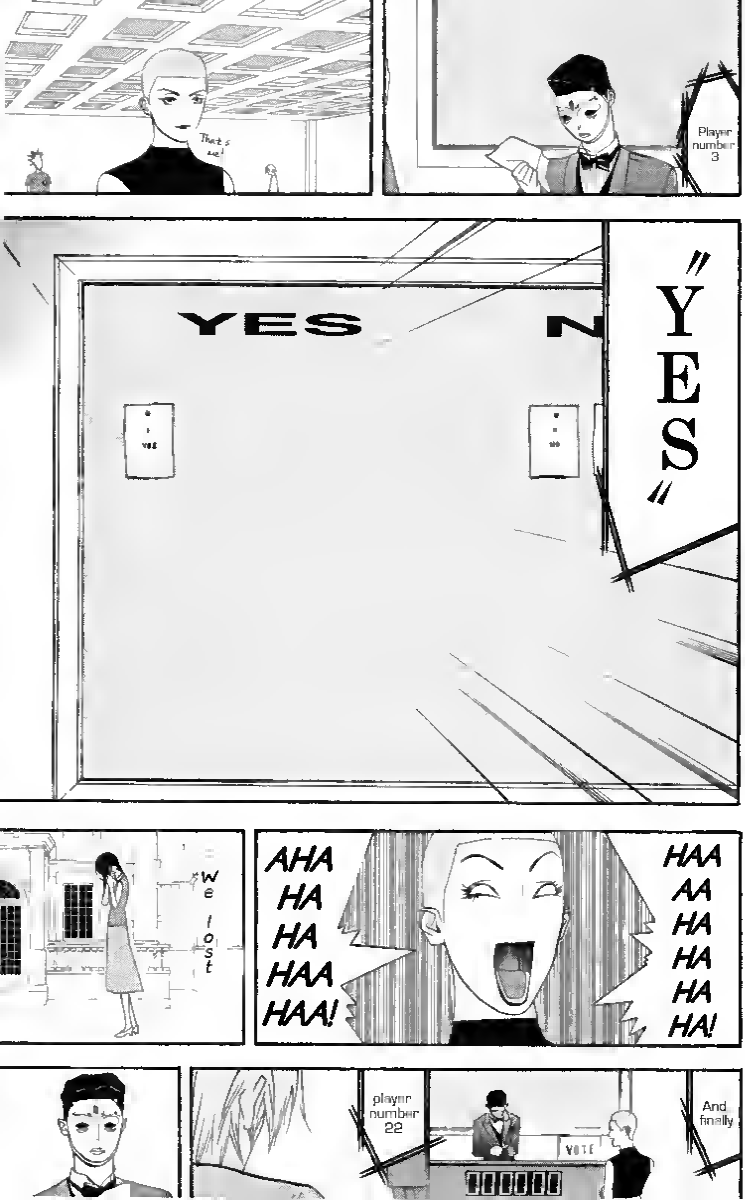
!!
Wanna fight? Bring it on!
I'm a 5th-degree black belt in karate!
hee hee hee!
hee hee hee
I bet you're heart-broken
...
3

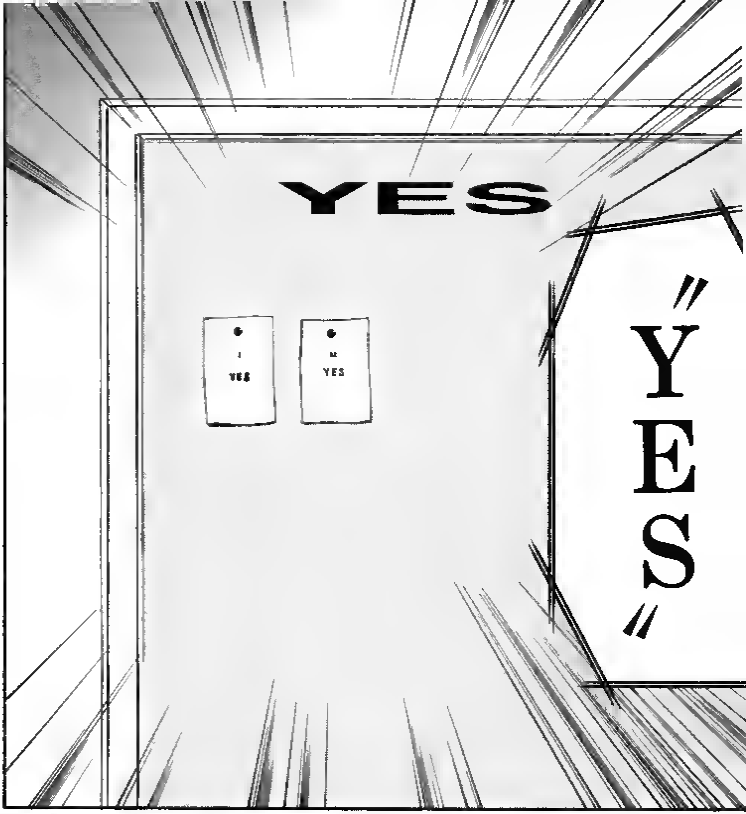
you guys were too soft!
But if I do say so myself,

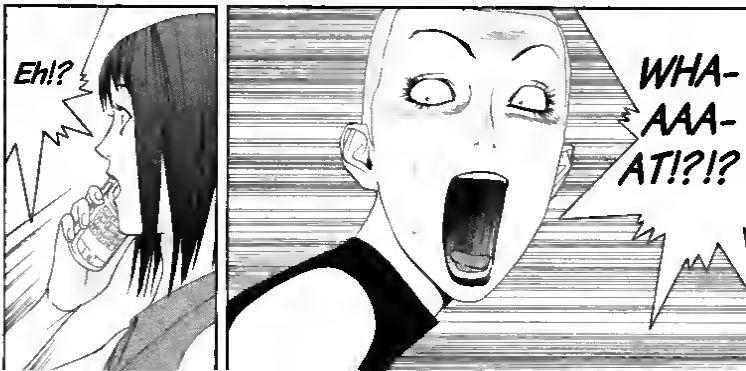

The winner would be the one who used their time wisely!
The key was time.
Didn't the Dealer say it himself?

You're retards!
You left yourselves wide open!
After hearing a great plan you just sat on your asses!
And what did you guys do?
And it was no small task creating that last team in 6 hours!
I didn't get a wink of sleep the night before the first round!
Yes, I had to work like mad to create this no-fail system!

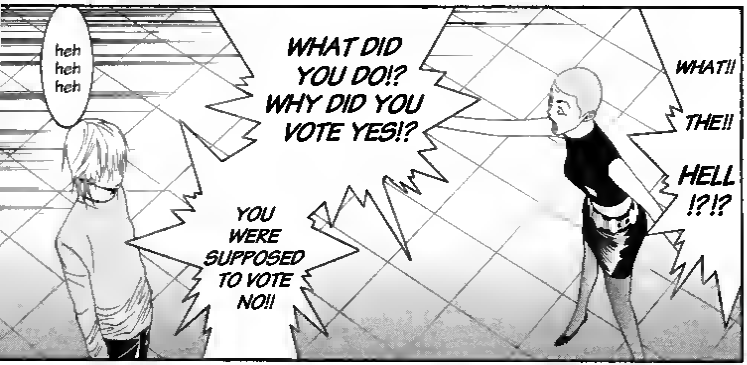
That's why fools like you will ALWAYS end up losers!
boo-hoo hoo!!
hic...
Continuing where we left off
We already know the results, though!
Oh!
We would like to finish announcing the results if you don't mind
Ahem
Please, go on!


That's me!
Player number 3
YES
N
"YES"
We lost
AHA HA HA HAA HAA!
HAA AA HA HA HA HA!
player number 22
VOTE
And finally


YES
YES
YES
"YES"


Eh!?
WHA-
AAA-
AT!?!?

HOLD ON JUST A SEC!
Therefore, we will repeat this last round
The results are in 2 YES to 2 NO


heh heh heh
WHAT DID YOU DO!? WHY DID YOU VOTE YES!?
YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO VOTE NO!!
WHAT!! THE!! HELL !?!?

!?
the party's over.
But,
I know you thought your plan was perfect

I saw through it all.
Not only that you were "Mr. X"...
but your entire strategy as well!
.....

Heh heh heh
I figured it all out.
Not only the fact that you were "Mr. X"...
LIAR GAME
ライアーゲーム
Chapter 15
Upper Hand
...
but your entire strategy as well!

ALL OF YOU WERE SURE IT WAS NUMBER 15!
Everyone but me.

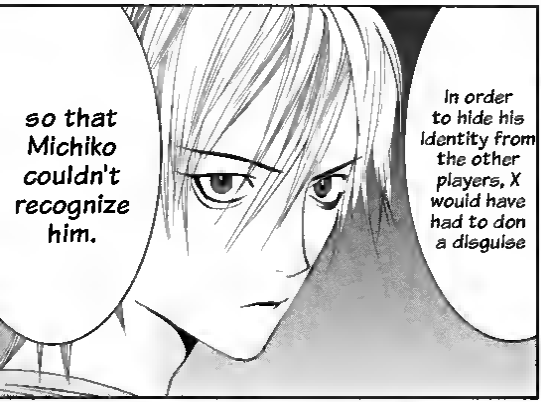
HOW !?
THERE'S NO WAY!

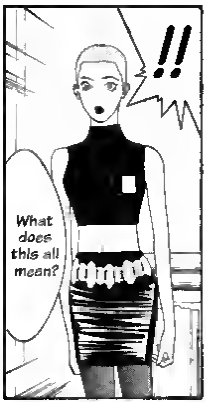
I knew from the start player 15 wasn't "Mr. X."
In fact, let me inform you---

"Mr. X" stole 100 million from Takade Michiko by obtaining a blank check. Thereafter, he slipped into the mansion to play this game...
...Essentially.

!?
!?
It's simple, really
Think about it and it'll all make sense.

"X" must have clearly been aware of this.
if I hadn't met Michiko, the odds were high she would have been forced to play this game.


so that Michiko couldn't recognize him.
In order to hide his identity from the other players, X would have had to don a disguise


!!
What does this all mean?

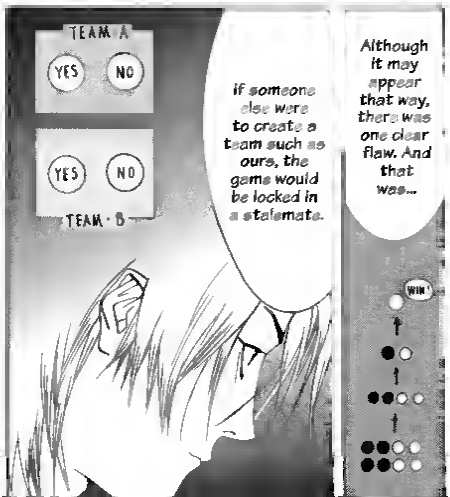
It couldn't have been number 15.
Here's why:

It couldn't have been more convenient for you.
And, that's exactly what happened.
Plus, you had planned to replace your female friend, so what better than to disguise yourself as a woman, too?
since you're able to switch between a man and a woman

it's like saying to others, "Hello, I'm in disguise!"
No one that was trying to hide the fact they're in disguise would wear a pair of sunglasses.

Care to explain how you saw through my strategy?
~ And?

That makes sense.
.....


TEAM A
YES
NO
YES
NO
TEAM B
if someone else were to create a team such as ours, the game would be locked in a stalemate.
Although it may appear that way, there was one clear flaw. And that was...
WIN

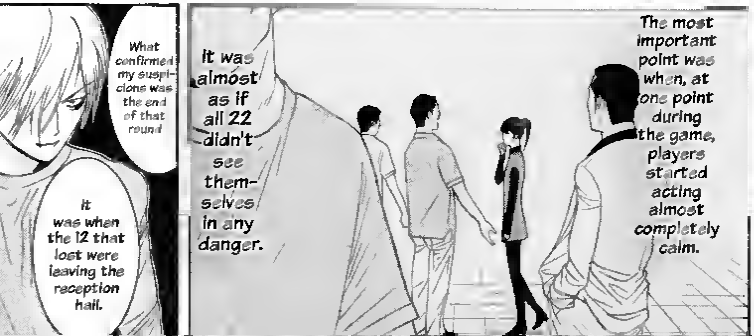
I recognized from the beginning that my initial strategy WASN'T a sure winner.

But that was, in fact, just a bluff.
Still, saying that it was a no-fail winning strategy worked in promoting team unity.

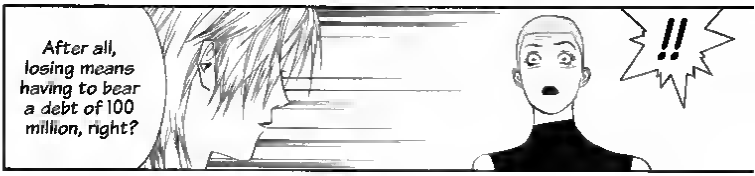
And I knew immediately that there was in fact a team other than ours.

I was paying close attention to see if I could sense anything strange
That's why, the minute the game started,

everything felt wrong.
Be-cau-se
Howl?


What confirmed my suspicions was the end of that round
it was when the 12 that lost were leaving the reception hall.
It was almost as if all 22 didn't see themselves in any danger.
The most important point was when, at one point during the game, players started acting almost completely calm.

that not a single one of them showed any sign of sad-ness?
Why was it


After all, losing means having to bear a debt of 100 million, right?
!!

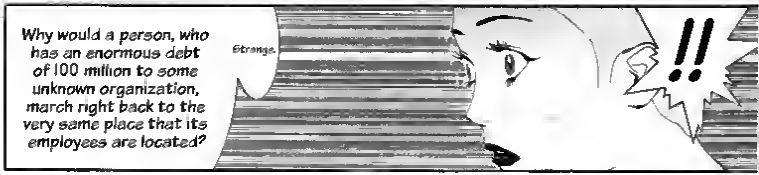
...And yet,
In fact, it wouldn't be strange to see people getting hysterical.
Normally, people would be distressed

In fact, there were a few who showed a faint smile on their way out.
not one person created such a display. They were completely indifferent.

their safety was guaranteed somehow.
It was as if

I realized it then.
!!
A team apart from ours was out there.
At the very least, one team
But, with some overlap,
two teams were possible in the worst case.
...
I have Kanzaki Nao to thank
for giving me concrete evidence when she called me this morning.

Player number one had returned here this morning.


Why would a person, who has an enormous debt of 100 million to some unknown organization, march right back to the very same place that its employees are located?
Strange.
!!

at least have them act the part when they lose!
It's not a bad idea to trick all of the players into teams, but then
heh heh heh
Likely, he came out of fear that his team's victor would run off with the entire reward.

I was clearly able to identify you.
Actually,
All that doesn't point to me being "Mr. X!"
...But
...But!!
...
But,
there was one time you slipped up.
You thought things through calmly and acted with guts.
you were more passionate than others about winning.
Overall,
!!
When you were talking with Nao about "Mr. X"
151?
You mean that guy in sunglasses??
you clearly lost your cool.
No way!!
I also sensed something strange about him!!
What's that?
Because at that time, you
made your single, most lethal mistake
Huh!? Me...Hiromi, you were disliking the same thing?
He was the only one who remained so calm.
If we consider that he practically is ready to be a check for 1 billion...
then every thing makes sense.
a mistake?
That was
Heh heh heh
...That's not true!
It is.

It's true that Nao said "X" had stolen 100 million while right outside the mansion,
but she never said anything about a check.

!!
Only "X" would have known that the money was stolen in the form of a check.

Get it now?
Heh heh heh
Your strategy was weak.
.....
.....
Wow!

we will continue straight into the next round, starting now.
Because the YES to NO tally resulted in a tie,

But
you haven't won yet!

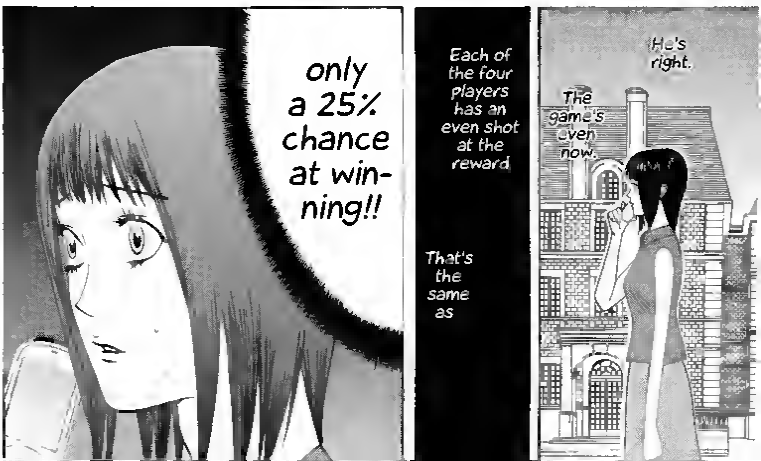
!

Well, you certainly got me there.
trrrr!!
May I please have your cell phone, sir?

doesn't mean you'll win!
you stopped my plan
Just because
Let me be perfectly clear.

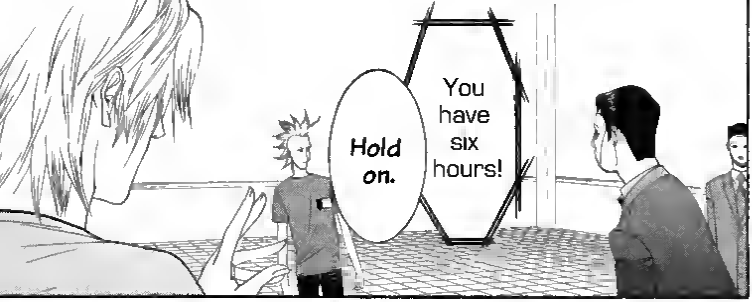
You haven't gained a thing!
We're just back to square one!

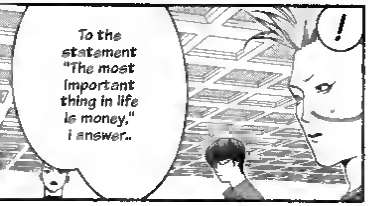
hmm ...?
Square one.


only a 25% chance at winning!!
Each of the four players has an even shot at the reward.
That's the same as
He's right.
The game's even now.

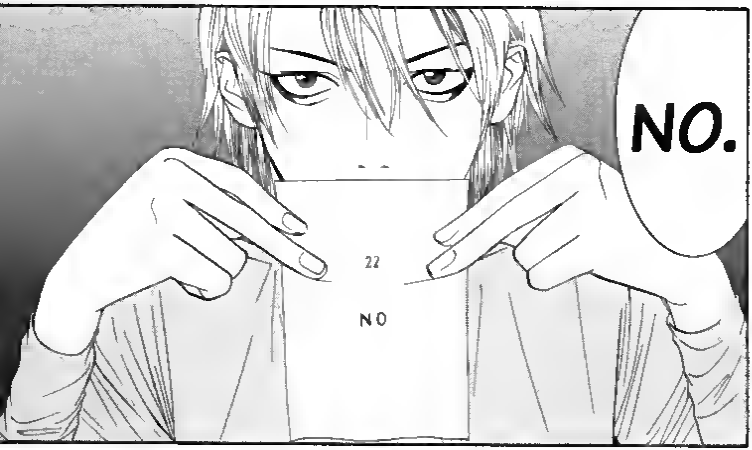
22
Player 22!
We will now decide who selects our next question!
!!
Me, huh?
Heh heh heh
Please step up to the stage.
Player number 22

The most important thing in life...
is MONEY.
And there you have it!
'The most important thing in life is money!'
If you agree then vote YES
However if you disagree vote NO!


You have six hours!
Hold on.


To the statement "The most important thing in life is money," I answer..
!

I've already made up my mind.


NO.
22
NO

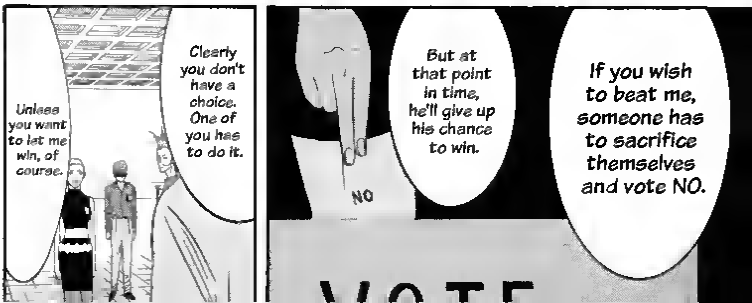
!?
!?

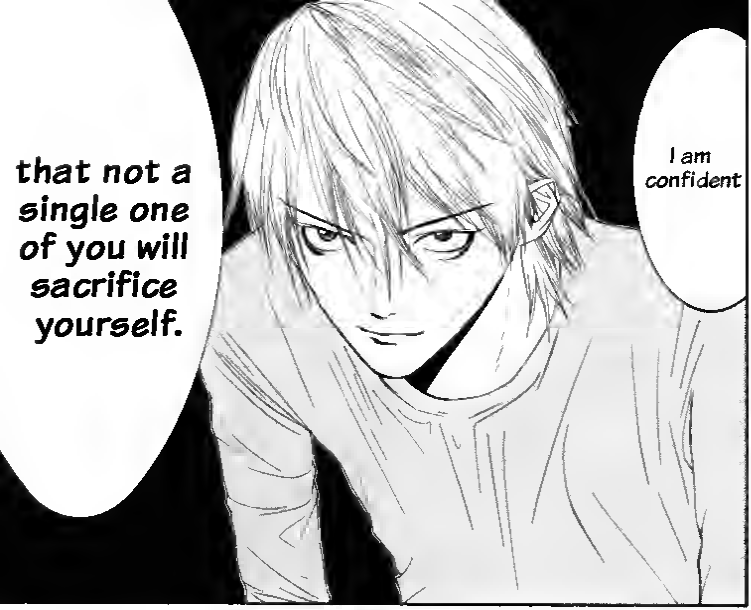
!!!
VOTE

SHOWING US YOUR VOTE?! ARE YOU STUPID?!
!!
W-WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?
YOU HAVE A WHOLE 6 HOURS TO DECIDE!!
I don't need that long.

Because ...
the winner of this game is me!
As you just saw, I voted NO.
!?
!?
MAJORITY
this is the YES ballot that I didn't use.
YES
To prove it, look
I'm not pulling any tricks.
your only choice is to vote YES.
?
?
?
NO
If you want to become the minority,
since one vote towards NO has already been made,
...So that means...

But, if you think only of yourselves and all three of you vote YES,
then...
I'll instantly become the minority since I voted NO.


If you wish to beat me, someone has to sacrifice themselves and vote NO.
But at that point in time, he'll give up his chance to win.
NO
Clearly you don't have a choice. One of you has to do it.
Unless you want to let me win, of course.

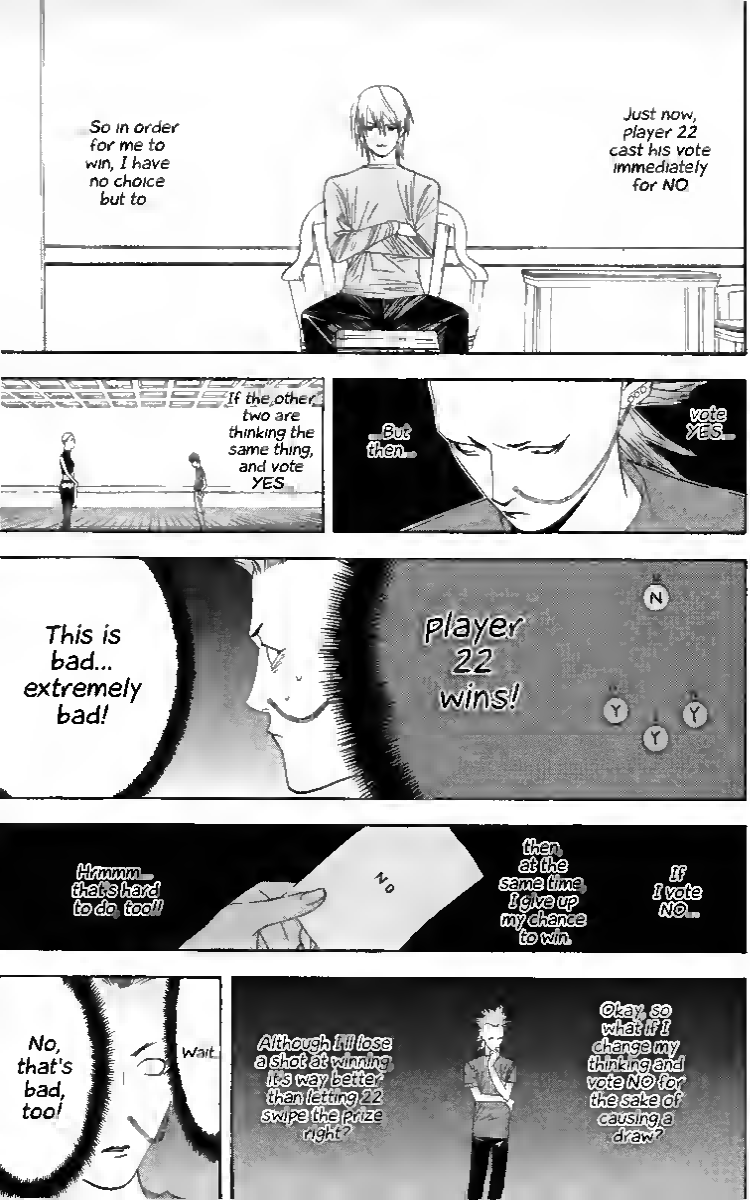

I am confident
that not a single one of you will sacrifice yourself.

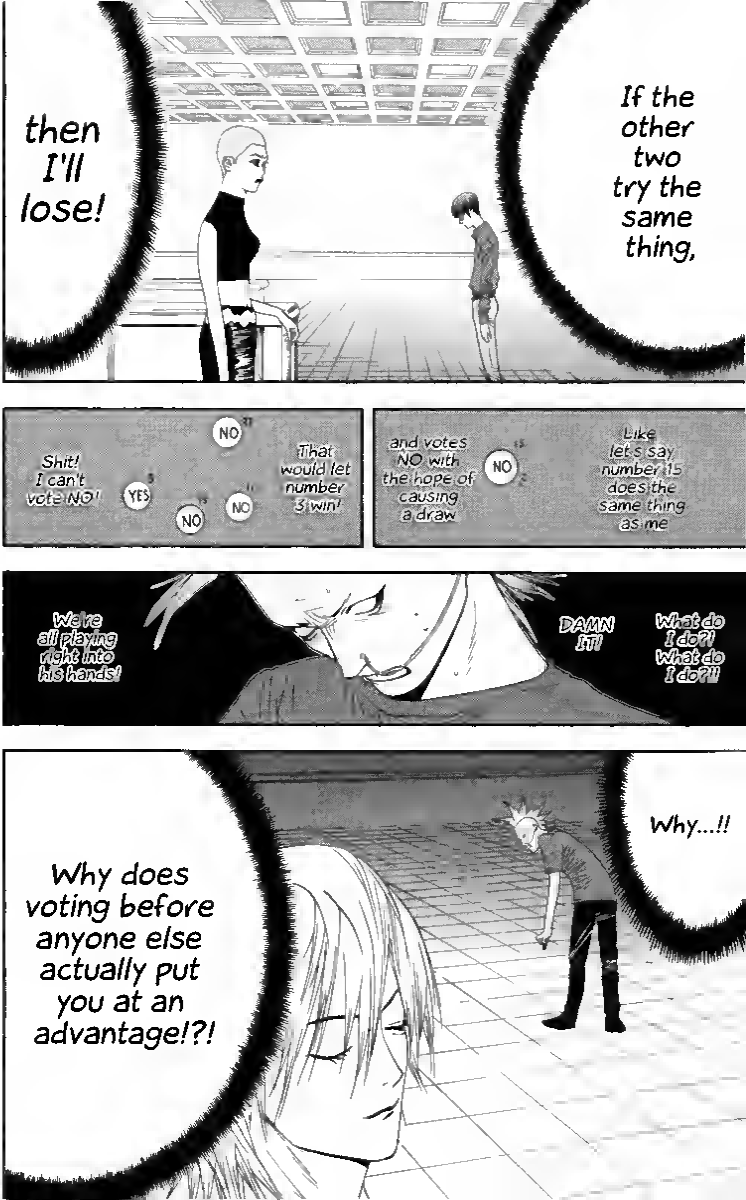
That's why I've already won!
.....
.....

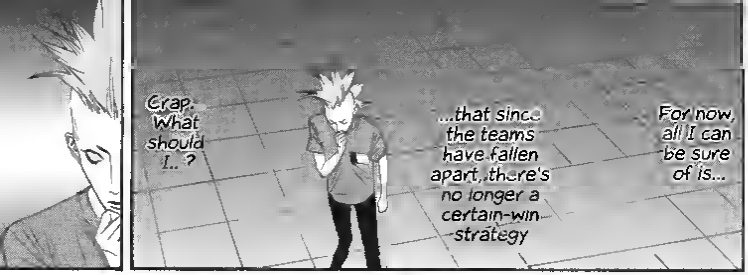
TO BE CONTINUED

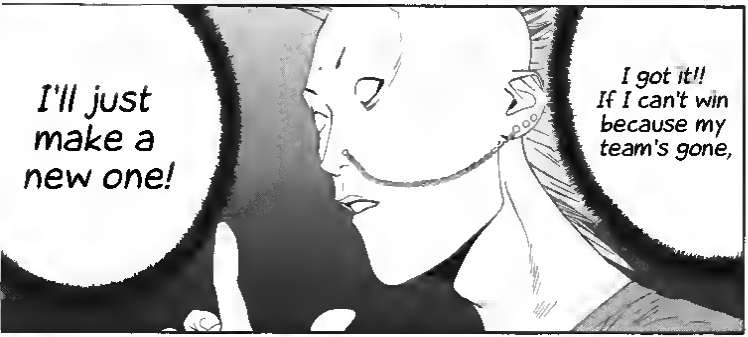
Chapter 16
Foresight

Although one ballot has just been cast, we will still begin the game like usual.
You have 6 hours to place your vote, starting now!
05:59:59
Okay, calm down...
Let's think this through one more time.
At this rate, number 22's gonna win!
This is bad
Nghh
Mmm

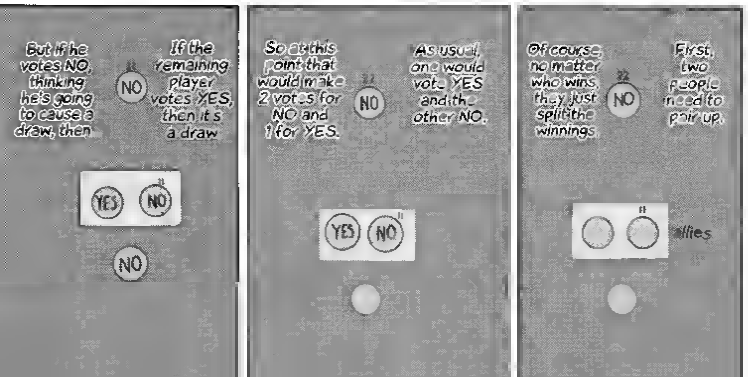

So in order for me to win, I have no choice but to
Just now, player 22 cast his vote immediately for NO
If the other two are thinking the same thing, and vote YES
But then...
vote YES...
This is bad... extremely bad!
player 22 wins!
N
Y
Y
Y
Hmmm... that's hard to do, too!
NO
then at the same time I give up my chance to win.
If I vote NO...
No, that's bad, too!
Wait
Although I'll lose a shot at winning, it's way better than letting 22 swipe the prize right?
Okay, so what if I change my thinking and vote NO for the sake of causing a draw?


then I'll lose!
If the other two try the same thing,
Shit! I can't vote NO!
YES
NO
NO
NO
That would let number 5 win!
and votes NO with the hope of causing a draw
NO
Like let's say number 15 does the same thing as me
We've all playing right into his hands!
DAMN it!
What do I do?! What do I do?!!
Why does voting before anyone else actually put you at an advantage!?!
Why...!!


Crap. What should I...?
...that since the teams have fallen apart, there's no longer a certain-win strategy
For now, all I can be sure of is...


I'll just make a new one!
I got it!! If I can't win because my team's gone,

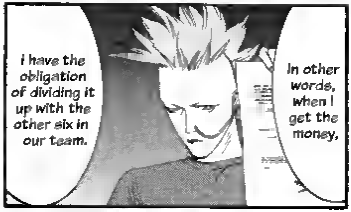
With one more partner, I can win!!
I can win!
Hah! The answer was so simple!

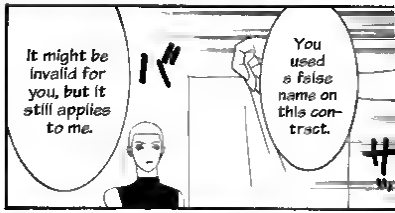

But if he votes NO, thinking he's going to cause a draw, then
If the remaining player votes YES, then it's a draw
YES
NO
NO
So at this point that would make 2 votes for NO and 1 for YES.
As usual, one would vote YES and the other NO.
YES
NO
Of course, no matter who wins, they just split the winnings
First, two people need to pair up.
NO
allies

Right on!! This plan will work!!
We win!!
The Problem...
there's no way to lose!
There's a good chance to win with this strategy but more importantly,
is who to pair up with
.....

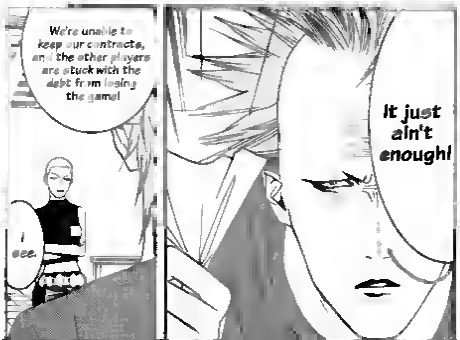
Hmmmm?
You want to pair up with ME?
3
I knew that the second I heard it.
then at least we're sure not to lose.
If we follow this plan
Still,
why did you come to me, and not player 15?
I betrayed everyone, after all.

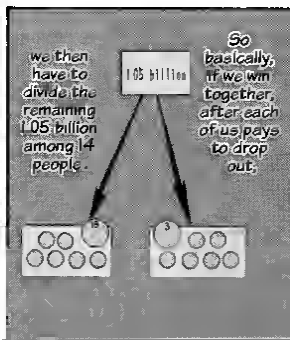
Even though I don't want to, I have no other choice.


I have the obligation of dividing it up with the other six in our team.
In other words, when I get the money,


It might be invalid for you, but it still applies to me.
You used a false name on this contract.

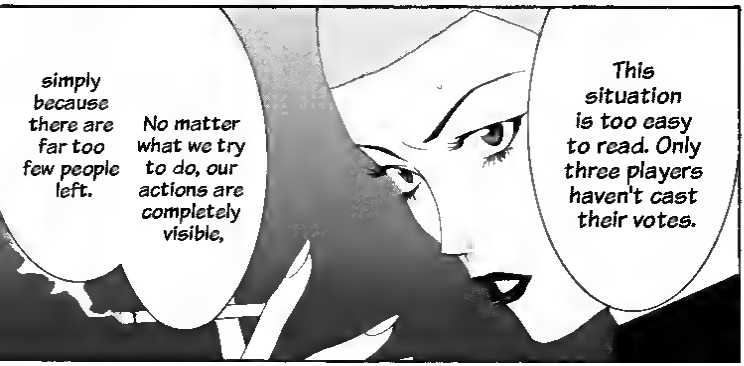
If he wins, he's got to do the same thing for his team.
Player 15's in the same boat

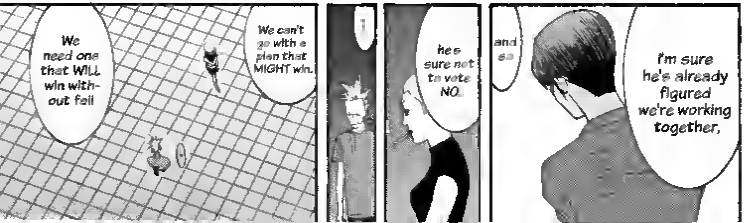

We're unable to keep our contracts, and the other players are stuck with the debt from losing the game!
I see.
It just ain't enough!


So basically, if we win together, after each of us pays to drop out,
1.05 billion
we then have to divide the remaining 1.05 billion among 14 people.
15
3

we can't win either.
while this plan guarantees we won't lose,
I understand your thinking.
But

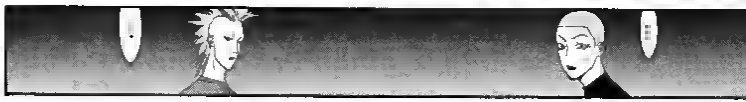
but he's been glancing over here the whole time.
It's kinda hard to tell with those sunglasses,
Player 15.
Look over there.
!?

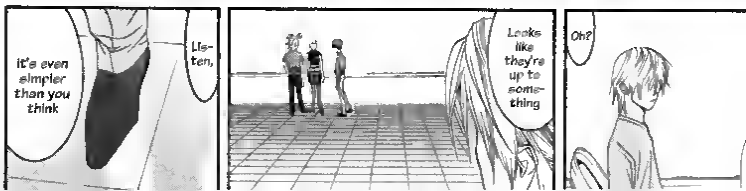

simply because there are far too few people left.
No matter what we try to do, our actions are completely visible,
This situation is too easy to read. Only three players haven't cast their votes.


We need one that WILL win without fail
We can't go with a plan that MIGHT win.
I
he's sure not to vote NO.
and so
I'm sure he's already figured we're working together,

You want a no-fail plan?
!!
!!

I have just the thing.


!
...

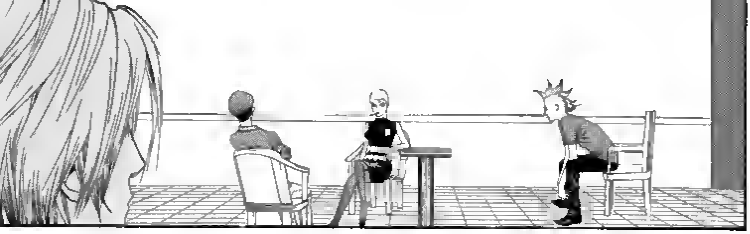

Lis-ten,
it's even simpler than you think
Looks like they're up to some-thing
Oh?

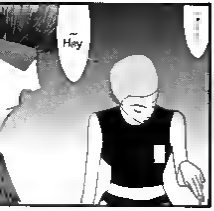
All we need to do is form a team with the three of us.
heh heh heh
Don't forget our teams... All together, that's 15 people. How do you plan on dividing 1.05 billion among everyone?
But are you planning to just divide the winnings?
It's painfully obvious that if we all work together we can win.
One of us is guaranteed to win for the group
But with three, it's doable.
If you try to form a team of two, there's no way to win.
Hold it.
Who said that we're only taking away 1.05 billion?
!?
I'm talking about ALL 2.1 billion!

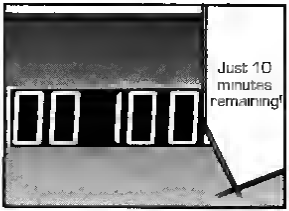
If I win for the team, I won't drop out.
I'll continue on to the next stage!
!!
!!
But then again,
I'd be stupid to miss this chance!
What an idiot! Look at how intense this second round is! Does he have no concept of just how hard the third one will be?
Yes.
Are you serious!?!
Wow, I can't believe how courageous you are! Aiming for the top? I really respect you!
Of course, I'll still be taking my cut.
Let's see, first player 1 and his team would require... 1 billion, 6 million, 250 thousand yen.
And my team is six people, not including myself, so I'd need 162 million, 500 thousand...
I'll be taking 230 million for myself.
...Meaning, the rest would go to player 3... How about it?
?
"The rest"?
How much could it be?

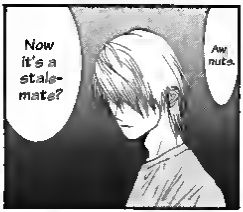
ONLY 1 MILLION !!!?
1 million, 250 thousand.
Sure it is.
It was 100 million to get into this damn game and that's nowhere near the cost!!
and I just get a measly 1 million, 250 thousand !!?
Why does player 11 get 43 million, 750 thousand; you take 230 million;
WHAT THE HELL!?
Right
Isn't that what you just admitted a while ago?
You're already holding a check worth 100 million.
Grrrrr Uh
You should be grateful we're giving you anything at all!
You just tried to cheat every one of us out of the money.

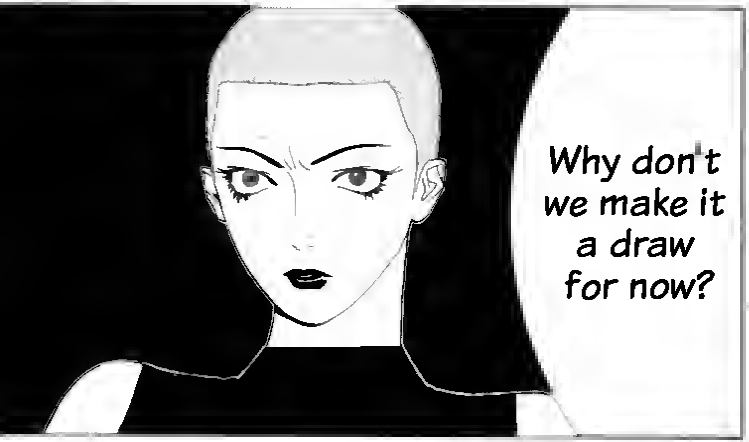
Let's see some fists!
heh heh heh
Who'd agree to these terms?!
Hell, no!
Who's being selfish? 1 million, 250 thousand is hardly a penny!
Quit being selfish! Don't you understand the situation?
heh heh heh
This is getting ugly
WHAAAT!?
I should get 43 million, 750 thousand like him!!
What's wrong with his plan? You're still walking out with a profit!
Hey!!
At least...
Twenty minutes to go!
2002
I refuse to leave here empty-handed.
ahem
One hour left!
59 58




Hey


Just 10 minutes remaining!


Now it's a stale-mate?
Aw nuts.

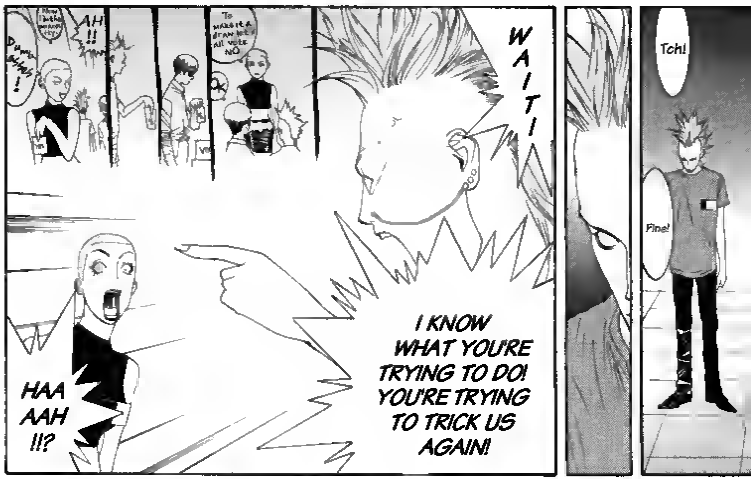

Why don't we make it a draw for now?

The only issue left is how to split the winnings.

We've already agreed that we need to cooperate so we can win this game later!
There's no need to rush!
Let's make it a draw so we can settle this mess tomorrow!

?

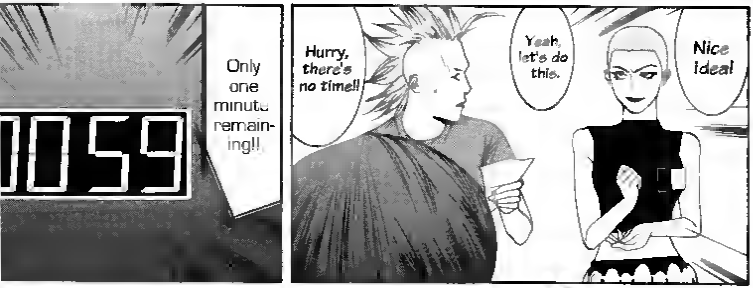
Let's make it a draw.
I guess we have no other choice.
sssssh

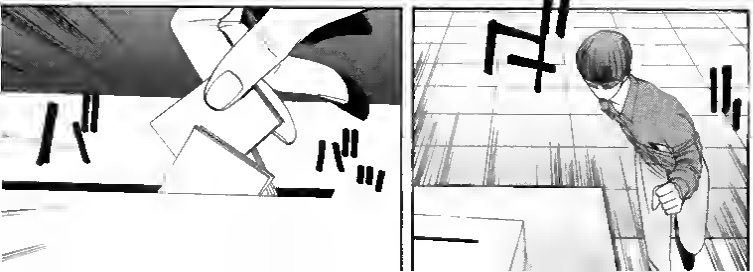

AH!!
Damn kids!
Let's make it a draw! I said NO!
WAIT!
I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TRYING TO DO! YOU'RE TRYING TO TRICK US AGAIN!
HAA AAH!!?
Tch!
Fine!

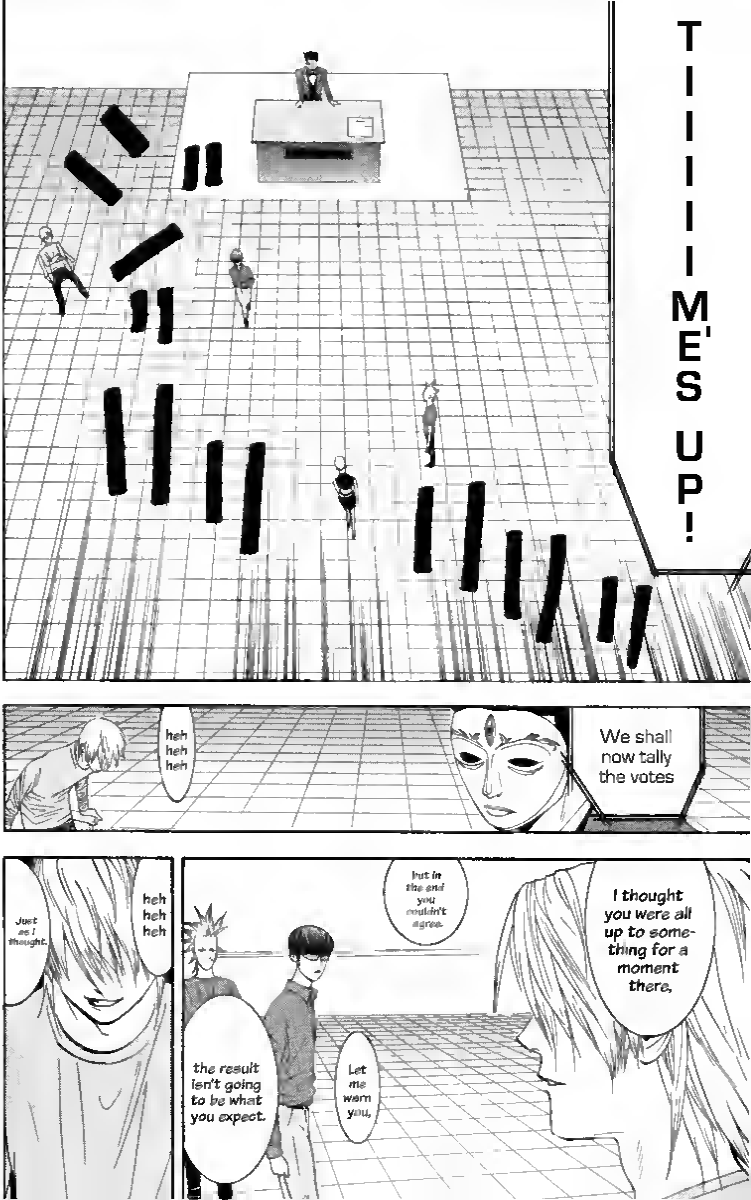
Then let's do it this way:
Okay, okay!!!
You can't fool me! You tried to make us lose!
What are you saying!? No, I'm not!!

I'll take your ballots to the box!
In order for us to make a definite draw,

But at least we don't have to worry about anyone trying to get the best of us.
NO
NO
Of course, we're losing our chance to win right now.
YES
YES
You two give me both of your YES ballots.


1059
Only one minute remaining!!
Hurry, there's no time!!
Yeah, let's do this.
Nice idea!




TIIIIIME'S UP!
We shall now tally the votes
heh heh heh
I thought you were all up to something for a moment there,
But in the end you couldn't agree.
Let me warn you,
the result isn't going to be what you expect.
heh heh heh
Just as I thought.

!?
You were only humans of that level to begin with...
How pitiful.
heh heh heh
and you didn't even realize it!
You just walked right into my trap

TO BE CONTINUED

Chapter 17
Trap

We...
just walked...
into a trap?!

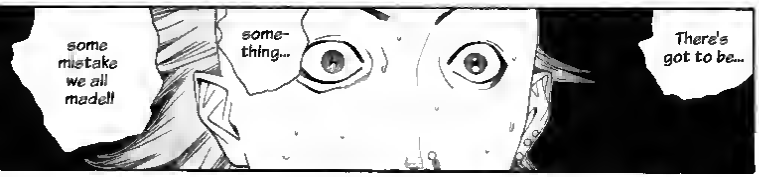
Oh, Noo
What happened? Is the game over!?
Mr Aki-ya-ma!!

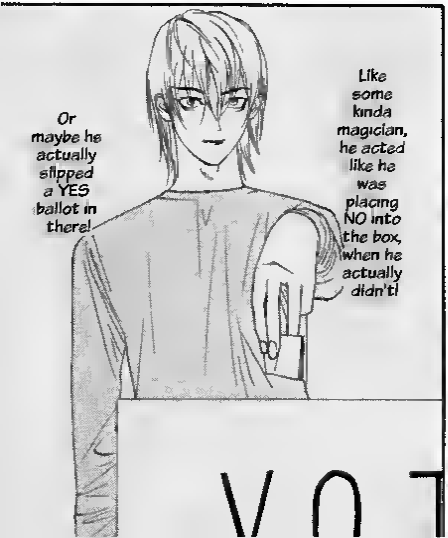
Player number 22
You have a call.

!!
Perfect timing.
They're just about to count the votes.
Just wait until you hear this.

He's got to be bluffing.
Relax.
What trap?
A trap!?

LOOK AT HIS ATTITUDE! IT'S LIKE HE'S ALREADY WON!
HOW THE HECK DO YOU EXPECT ME TO RELAX!?


some mistake we all made!!
some-thing...
There's got to be...


Or maybe he actually slipped a YES ballot in there!
Like some kinda magician, he acted like he was placing NO into the box, when he actually didn't!
VOT

Did he really vote NO right from the start!?
GOT IT!
It was something so simple we took it for granted!
Huh!?

GET AHOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
Did you really vote NO earlier?
HOW?
?
I confirmed it myself during the game.
He definitely voted NO.
you wouldn't mind if I disposed of this for you, right?
Yo
Then,
Stare
Stare
Stare
Stare
Here's the proof the YES ballot I didn't use.
Didn't I show you already?
So, clearly, he couldn't have voted YES.

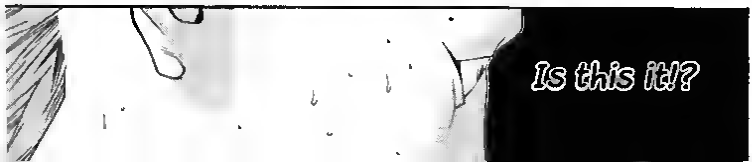
that we made it a tie so that we could hold off our negotiations until the next round.
He probably just realized
This is exactly what he wants!
Oh... yeah.
Besides, if he put both ballots in the box he'd be disqualified.
By feeding us that bluff, he's really trying to shake our confidence in each other so that our alliance falls apart next round.
He's just trying to mess with us.
See?
That makes sense...
And now,
we will announce the results!
player number 3!
First we have

YES
NO
YES
YES
YES
Next
number 11
ゴク…
And next...
ﾊｧ…

number
22

What trap was he talking about??
What is it?

I'm sure he did!
He pulled something!


Is this it!?

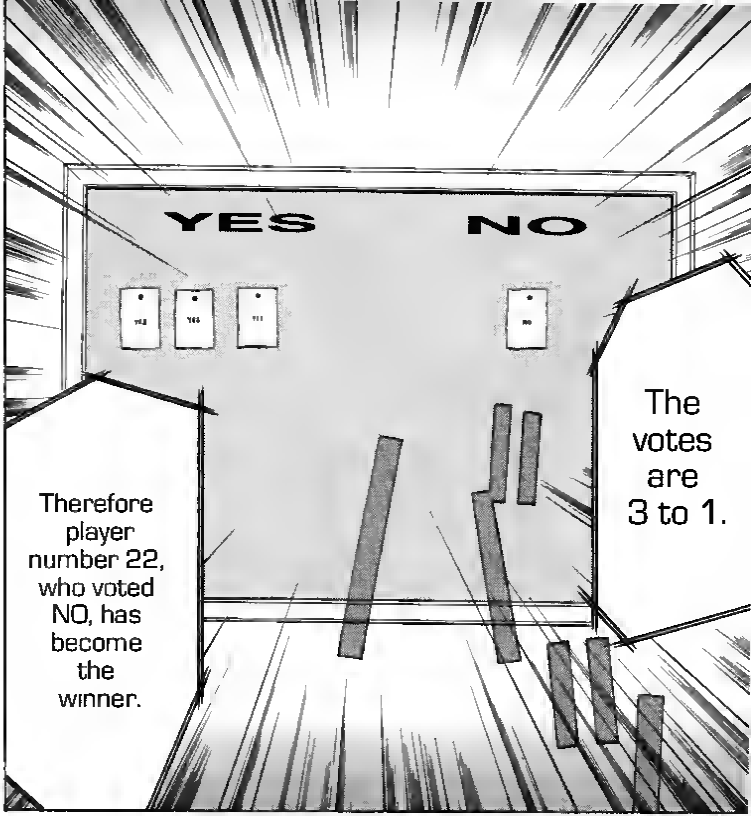
NO
NO

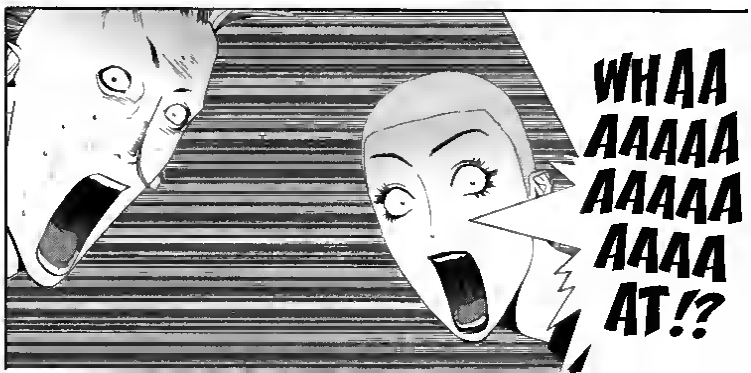
Huh?
...

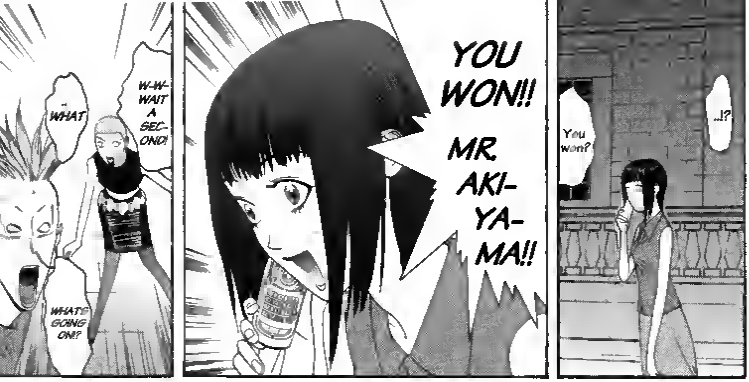
He was bluffing the whole time!
See? Like I said!

But we have to be more careful from here on.
Nothing special happened, and we've got our draw.
And finally number 15

All in an effort to break our battle plan!
Number 22 is sure to come and try to mess with our heads.
That makes all of the votes
YES
Yeah...
Don't let him take you in for a second, okay?
DID YOU JUST SAY !?
...What
YES
Number 15


YES
NO
The votes are 3 to 1.
Therefore player number 22, who voted NO, has become the winner.


WHAA AAAAA AAAAA AAAA AT!?


WHAT
W-W-WAIT A SEC-OND!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
YOU WON!!
MR. AKI-YA-MA!!
You won?
..!?

!?
heh heh heh

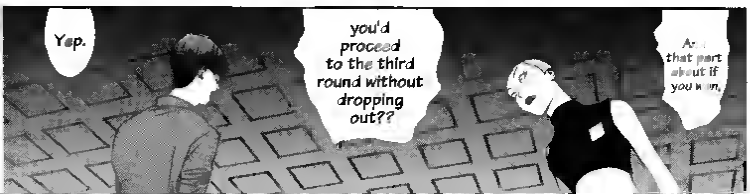
you two fell for my trap!
I'll say it again:

!?
!?

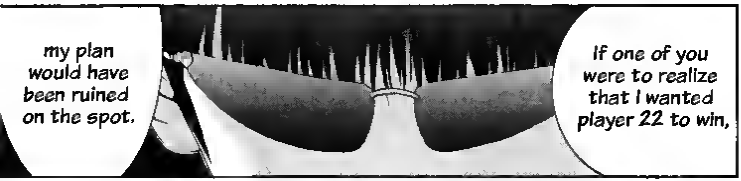
heh
heh
heh
You two really are dimwits.
He's right.
heh
heh
heh
You voted YES against our plan!?
You betrayed us!?

I was allied with player 22 the whole time.
Did you get it yet?

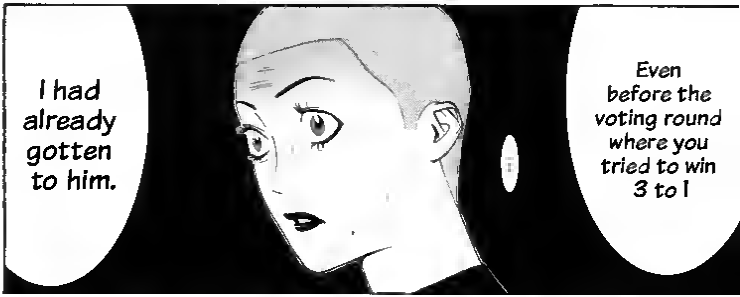
Last I heard, that WAS the objective...
Isn't this the "LIAR" game?
That's right.
YOU TRICKED US?!


Yep.
you'd proceed to the third round without dropping out??
A- that part about if you win,

I never meant a word of it!
!?
You'd have to be crazy to proceed to the third round.
Look how hard this battle was
That was my very goal from the start!
You got it
But... when you agreed we settle for a draw because none of us would compromise over the winnings, you were actually...
!!
And, likewise, that you'd resort to suggesting we settle for a draw when it was clear you wouldn't get your way
I knew that if I suggested you get a small share you'd never agree.
You are obsessed with money



Since when?
When did you two join eldee?
DAMN IT!
DAMN IT!!!!!!
AAAA



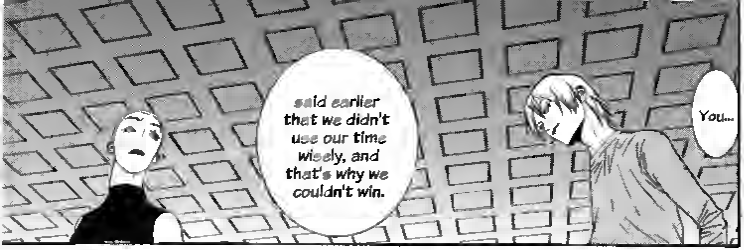
The information I got from player 15 proved to me there were more teams.

And I knew that if things were as I expected, voting YES would have allowed some third person to win.

Without proof, I would have had no way to stop you

I sensed that there were three teams but I had no concrete evidence.

that proved there was yet another team he must have belonged to.
But it was Nao's phone call this morning mentioning player 1


You...
said earlier that we didn't use our time wisely, and that's why we couldn't win.

But I'd say I used my time quite wisely
to keep you from realizing me and player 15 were conspiring together.
.....

Why
did you join player 22?
Because he told me
"You are being fooled by player 3."
I was shocked.
I was puzzled how he could have found out about our team

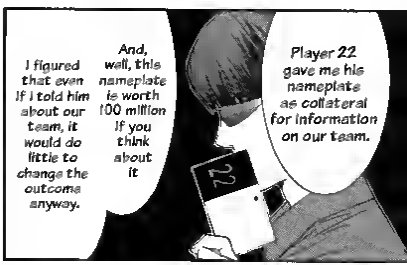
Then he continued by saying
"If you join forces with me, we can win this... however,
leave things the way they are now and I guarantee you'll be tricked by player 3."

I didn't know who to believe at the time.
He never asked to be trusted
Instead, he gave me a tangible reason to believe him.
-By just that!?
Why trust his words over mine?
No, there's more.

...This!
22

Come to think of it, he never had it this whole time!
Ah!!
The name-plate?

So I told him everything there was about our team.
!!


I figured that even if I told him about our team, it would do little to change the outcome anyway.
And, well, this nameplate is worth 100 million if you think about it
Player 22 gave me his nameplate as collateral for information on our team.
22

But thanks to the information I gave player 22, he was able to stop your little scheme.
I nearly lost it all there.

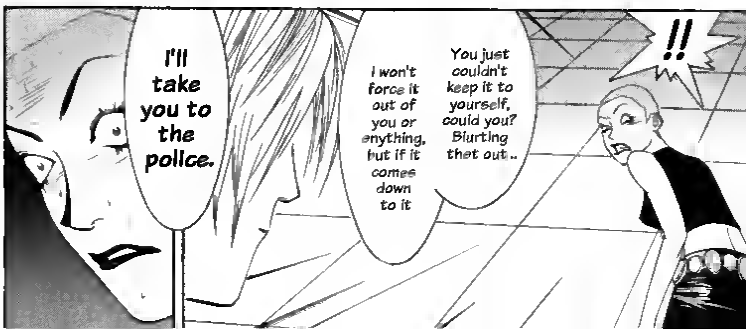
Everything was just as player 22 had said — you were a huge traitor
it was quite a surprise when you blurted out the truth in front of us

That means
22
I had intended to keep his nameplate, but after asking the LGT attendants here I learned that these must be exchanged to receive the reward.
Well, maybe "believe in" isn't quite right.
I came to believe in player 22
And so,
22
without this, player 22 can't collect a dime.
So I had to fully cooperate in order to make sure he'd get the reward.
Added to that, I no longer had a team. His plan was all I had left.
the moment he gave me his nameplate, we shared a common interest.
I guess you could say

I lost ...?

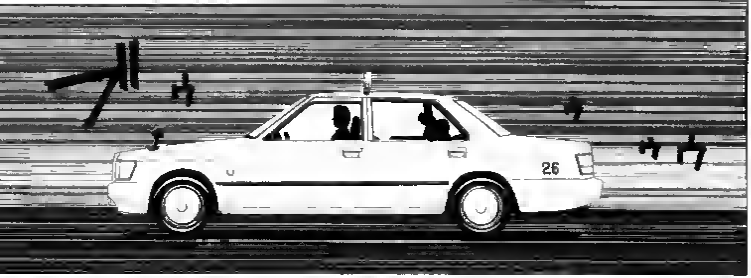
Re-turn
the shack you stole.

Hold on.
Before you start sulking there's something I need from you
!?


!!
You just couldn't keep it to yourself, could you? Blurting that out..
I won't force it out of you or anything, but if it comes down to it
I'll take you to the police.

DAMN YOUUUUU!!!
And with this,
the curtains closed on the second round of the LIAR GAME.

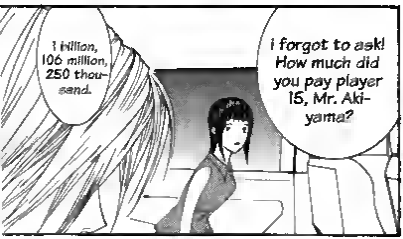
I was really worried there for a while!
Thank goodness!
In exchange for our freedom, there are other players now in debt because of us.
But
...ah
.....
It's hard to be happy we won when I think about it.
Dunno.
...So, what do you think will happen to them? The people who lost, I mean?
Um...

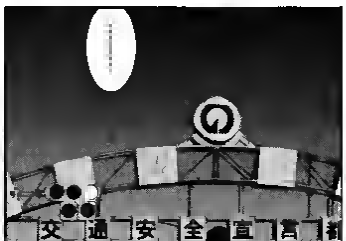

26

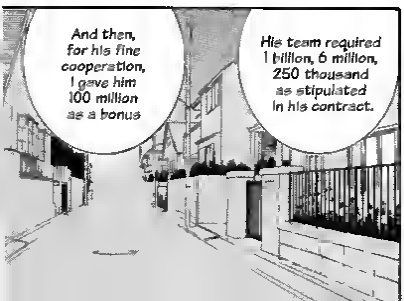
Quit thinking about it.

Right

It's not your fault at all.
No matter how much they may suffer,


1 billion, 106 million, 250 thousand.
I forgot to ask! How much did you pay player 15, Mr. Akiyama?


交 通 安 全 宣


And then, for his fine cooperation, I gave him 100 million as a bonus
His team required 1 billion, 6 million, 250 thousand as stipulated in his contract.

Huh?

Half the reward is 1.05 billion and yet you gave him over 1.1 billion!?
Then how are you going to pay for our team??
Hold on!!
Relax!
Including the check I recovered, the total reward was 2.2 billion.
I'll just continue on to the next round.
I can safely pay off everyone's debt in our team.

No! You can't do this!
You can't sacrifice yourself for the sake of us all!
Don't get me wrong.
Sacrifice...
I don't have any noble motives like that,
just ...
There's an organization that preys on the weak,
forces them to steal and lie,
and then places the losers in astronomical debt.

I've become keenly interested in finding out
exactly whose sick mind it is that's taking pleasure out of this LIAR GAME!

TO BE CONTINUED

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好評掲載されたものを収録しました。

◉ヤングジャンプ・コミックス◉

LIAR GAME
❷

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LIAR GAME

LIAR GAME❷ 甲斐谷 忍

LIAR GAME❶ ❷ …… 甲●谷 ●
ONE OUTS❶ ❿ …… 甲斐谷 忍

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Shortly after she managed to win the first round of the LIAR GAME, Kanzaki Nao receives an invitation to the second.
What Nao finds at the old Western mansion in the suburbs is a group of people there before her, 22 in total including herself.
The second round begins by giving each player 100 million, for a total pot of 2.2 billion.
The name of the game is "Minority Rule."
In response to various questions, each player votes on their response, and the winners are the group fewer in number.
This continues until one is left remaining.
This winner has the prospects of netting all 2.2 billion.
With bigger risks and even bigger rewards than the first round, a game of deceit on an unprecedented scale has already begun!